**Writing Strategy**

**Find the Fib**

**Purpose**

Find the Fib is a strategy that is used to engage and motivate students to write. It also builds classroom culture as students learn more about each other and their teacher through sharing their writing about themselves.

**Directions**

1. The teacher writes six statements about him/herself. Five of the statements should be true and one statement is a fib.
2. Students try and guess which statement is a fib.
3. The teacher asks the students to write five statements about themselves. Five of the statements should be true and one statement is a fib.
4. Students exchange papers and have their peers guess which one of their statements they believe to be false.
5. The student who fools the most classmates is recognized at the end of the activity.
6. Students are then asked to choose one of their true statements and tell their story about the truth in writing.

**Example** (provided by author & teacher Kelly Gallaher)

1. Tiger Woods was a student of mine when he was in high school.
2. I was once an extra in Dustin Hoffman movie.
3. I almost ran over a famous NFL quarterback with my car as he was jogging down the street.
4. In Italy, I was robbed at gunpoint. The gunman took my passport.
5. I had a terrible brain freeze on national television as a contestant on a television game show.
6. I once shook hands with the president of the United States.

Kelly Gallaher’s fib is number one. Although Tiger did attend high school in Anaheim, he never was a student of Kelly’s.

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**Extenders in Content Area**

In each case, students are asked to write an extended response about one of the true statements.

**English**

Students write true statements and a fib about a character they are reading about and students need to guess which statement is a fib.

**History**

Students write true statements and one inaccurate statement about the characteristics of a historical figure.

**Math**

Students write a true statements and one inaccurate statement about the steps in a math problem and the class needs to guess which step is inaccurate.

**Science**

Students write true statements and one inaccurate statement about a topic they are learning about in science.

**Career & Technical Education**

Students write true statements and one inaccurate statement regarding appropriate safety precautions in Career & Technical Education.

*Find the Fib strategy from Teaching Adolescent Writers, by Kelly Gallagher*