



ACTIVITY 2

SELF DIRECTED CRAFT DEVELOPMENT TASKS

COURSE FACILITATOR

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Before you begin this task/activity please watch the presentation FEELINGS and EMOTIONS Part 2.

The doctor snapped the stethoscope around his neck and looked straight at Caroline. He said nothing, but her instincts told her to expect bad news.

Caroline moved slowly towards her father’s bedside and gently placed her hand on his forehead. “You don’t have to do this alone Dad.” She said gently, “I will be with you every step of the way.”

Charles Bowman returned her smile and with all the strength he could muster, he pulled himself up higher on the pillows. “I know you will be Snapdragon.” He tried to sound confident, but his voice let him down. “You won’t be getting the family jewels just yet my girl ...” He squeezed her hand and gave up on trying to hide his true feelings. “You know, I always thought I’d be around to see you win that medal.” He choked back the tears.

‘You will be Dad.’ Caroline said softly ‘You will be.’

Doctor Wilder finished filling in the report and placed the clipboard back on the bed end. “Ms Bowman, you might like to wait outside for a while. I’ve ordered some tests for your father; my assistant will be here in a few minutes to conduct them.”

Caroline nodded, “Of course Doctor. I’ll go down to the coffee shop and wait there.’ She smiled at her father and patted the white bed linen. “How long will the test take?” she asked.

“About an hour.” Wilder said; his tone became gentler, “Your father is a strong man Ms Bowman. With the right treatment and the right attitude, he could make an excellent recovery.” He walked with her to the door, “He may never regain his eyesight, but I am confident the paralysis is not permanent. With good therapy he should be able to walk again.”

Caroline didn’t trust herself to speak. She stopped and turned to look at the Head Surgeon. Her eyes conveyed her thanks. Words were not required.

CRAFT DEVELOPMENT EXERCISE:

CHANGING THE FOCUS.

Copy the text in the previous page and print it out.

Then cut the page into strips, but only have one paragraph on each of the pieces you cut.

Next rearrange the position of each paragraph by placing the cut sections into a new sequence.

Examine the newly arranged work and ask yourself how the focus changes, and who the main characters are in each of your new sequences. Select the arrangement you think makes the best story.

Make sure the new story is still easy to read and flows in a logical way.

Write a short summary of how you rearranged the paragraphs, and the outcomes you observed.

Don't forget to explain what you discovered by doing this exercise.

TRY TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

How did the story's focus change when you moved the paragraphs around?

Who became the main character after the changes were made?

What became the central drama after the changes?

How important was the dialogue?

What did you feel for the new central character?

How important was the setting in the new story?

Was the new story anything like the original one?

If it was different, please explain why it was.

TIP: Use a notebook for your Self-Directed/Impromptu exercises and make lots of notes about what you observe when you do them.

This notebook will become your Writing Bible.

SUZANNE FLEMING AUTHOR



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