Smiley Face Tricks
Smiley Face Tricks are used to make your writing stronger!

1. **Magic 3:** Three parallel groups of words separated by commas that create a poetic rhythm or add support for a point. (Elaborate & Explain)

   *Example:* I was so excited that I jumped up and down, cried huge tears of joy, and plastered a huge smile on my face.

2. **Figurative Language:** Similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration, hyperbole, etc. These help add “spice” to writing and can help paint a more vivid picture for the reader.

   *Example:* She is pretty like a summer day
   *He is as fast as a jaguar*
   *His mind is a sponge that absorbs all the details.*
   *The sun smiled at me today.*

3. **Specific Details for Effect:** Instead of general, vague descriptions use specific sensory details to help the reader visualize the person, place, thing, or idea that you are describing.

   *Example:* When I was young at the ocean, I cracked open Mussels, periwinkles, and clams, and ran my fingers along their gushy insides. I squished seaweed noodles between my fore-finger and thumb, anxious for the pop and spray from the moist insides.

4. **Repetition for Effect:** Writers often repeat specifically chosen words or phrases to make a point and to stress certain ideas for the reader.
5. **Expanded Moment:** Instead of “speeding” past a moment, writers often emphasize it by “expanding” the actions. *(SNAPSHOTS & THOUGHTSHOTS!!!)*

Example: Mr. Warren stopped by Teddy, bent down, and scratched the dog’s head. The old, burr-clotted tail thumped wearily in the snow. Mr. Warren straightened up and looked around. He had narrow, stooped shoulders. His eyes were pale blue, and they had a kind of frightened look in them. He’s scared I thought; coming to a new place in the middle of a term, he’s scared.

6. **Humor:** Professional writers know the value of laughter; even subtle humor can help turn a “boring” paper into one that can raise someone’s spirits.

7. **Hyphenated Modifiers:** Sometimes a new way of saying something can make all the difference; hyphenated adjectives often cause the reader to “sit up and take notice”.

Example: The teacher stared at me with her I-am-going-to give-you-a-detention look.

He gave me a lets-be-friends hand shake.

My sister glared at me with a get-at-of-my-room look on her face.

8. **Full-Circle Ending:** Repeats a phrase from the beginning of the piece.

Example: You might say this is a story of a murder – although nobody was killed.

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You see what I mean when I say it was a kind of murder? I was the murderer.