

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## READING EXERCISE: SHOW DON'T TELL!

One of the challenges of writing stories is to learn how to **SHOW** what's happening (active) without **TELLING** it to the reader (passive). Instead of writing, *He was nervous*, we can write, *His fingers tapped on the table*. We **SHOW** he is nervous by the tapping of fingers. Actions speaks louder than words.

Read the following sentences and circle the one that is **TELLING**.

### EXAMPLE:

Abigail was scared. Abigail's pulse raced.

Abigail's heart sank. Abigail was disappointed.

Hugo was sad. Hugo's face fell.

Glorian was hungry. Glorian's stomach rumbled.

Cobwebs hung from Abigail's ceiling. Abigail's attic room was dusty.

The spider looked hungry. The spider clacked its jaws hungrily.

**Extra Credit:** Write a sentence to fix this from **TELL** to **SHOW**:

**TELL:** Abigail was late to class.

**SHOW:** \_\_\_\_\_

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