Pirates, Powerful Adjectives, and Perspective Paragraphs
Inspired by Tough Boris by Mem Fox

Pretend you are the stow-away from the book Tough Boris. Pretend you are laying eyes on the pirate for the first time from your hiding place. Write a descriptive paragraph (from the stow-away’s point-of-view) that uses all six adjectives Mem Fox uses in her book. Can you also use some great verbs in your perspective paragraph? Use another piece of paper, if this box isn’t big enough for your paragraph.
On this page: Create three adjective clusters about three different characters you might write about. You may work alone or with a partner, but however you work, be sure to choose the most interesting adjectives you can that might describe your three characters.

Some ideas for easier characters to cluster: fireman, policeman, doctor, nurse, teacher, space alien, clown, celebrity, writer, friend, dog, cat, bully, dentist, bus driver, zoo keeper, hunter, thief, etc.

Some ideas for more challenging characters to cluster: hero, dreamer, president, abolitionist, republican, democrat, war veteran, geneticist, geologist, marine biologist, statistician, miser, prig, boor, tyrant, villain, phobic, derelict, etc.
Use your favorite character cluster from the previous page, and write an original perspective paragraph about that character. Pretend you are another person who is observing your character from afar. Can you use all six adjectives from your cluster in your paragraph? Can you also use some great verbs? Write your paragraph below. Use another piece of paper, if necessary

Where is your Word Choice strongest?
Write a 5 next to your best Word Choice skill.
Write a / next to the skill where you might improve your W.C. the most. Where will your 2, 3, and 4 go? Discuss your choices with a friend.

___ My adjectives are excellent and thoughtful.
___ I use a good balance of action and linking verbs.
___ My nouns are precise; I don’t overuse pronouns.
___ It is clear that I am not afraid to take risks with new words.
___ I used a few color and texture words to describe.