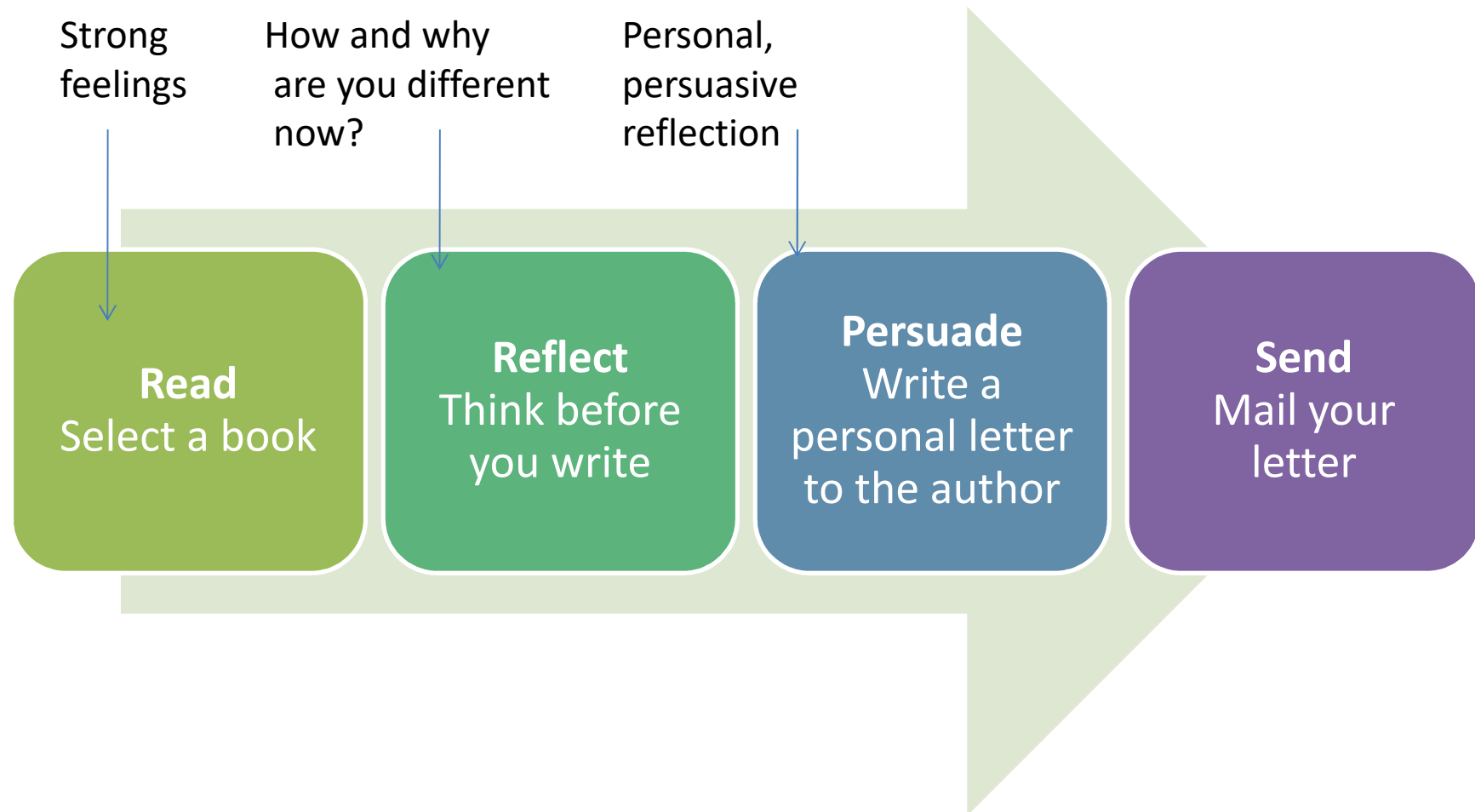


Letters About Literature Library of Congress Contest

- ✓ Students enter LAL Contest by writing a letter to an author – living or dead – explaining how the author's work somehow changed their view of the world or self.
- ✓ Students write honestly and in their own voice, as if they were having a conversation with the author.
- ✓ 3 levels (state / national)

How to enter LAL



Letters About Literature: National Winners – You choose

National Winners

Sarah's letter

- Dorothy Parker,
Penelope
(poem)
- “celebrate
our she-
roes”

Ryan's letter

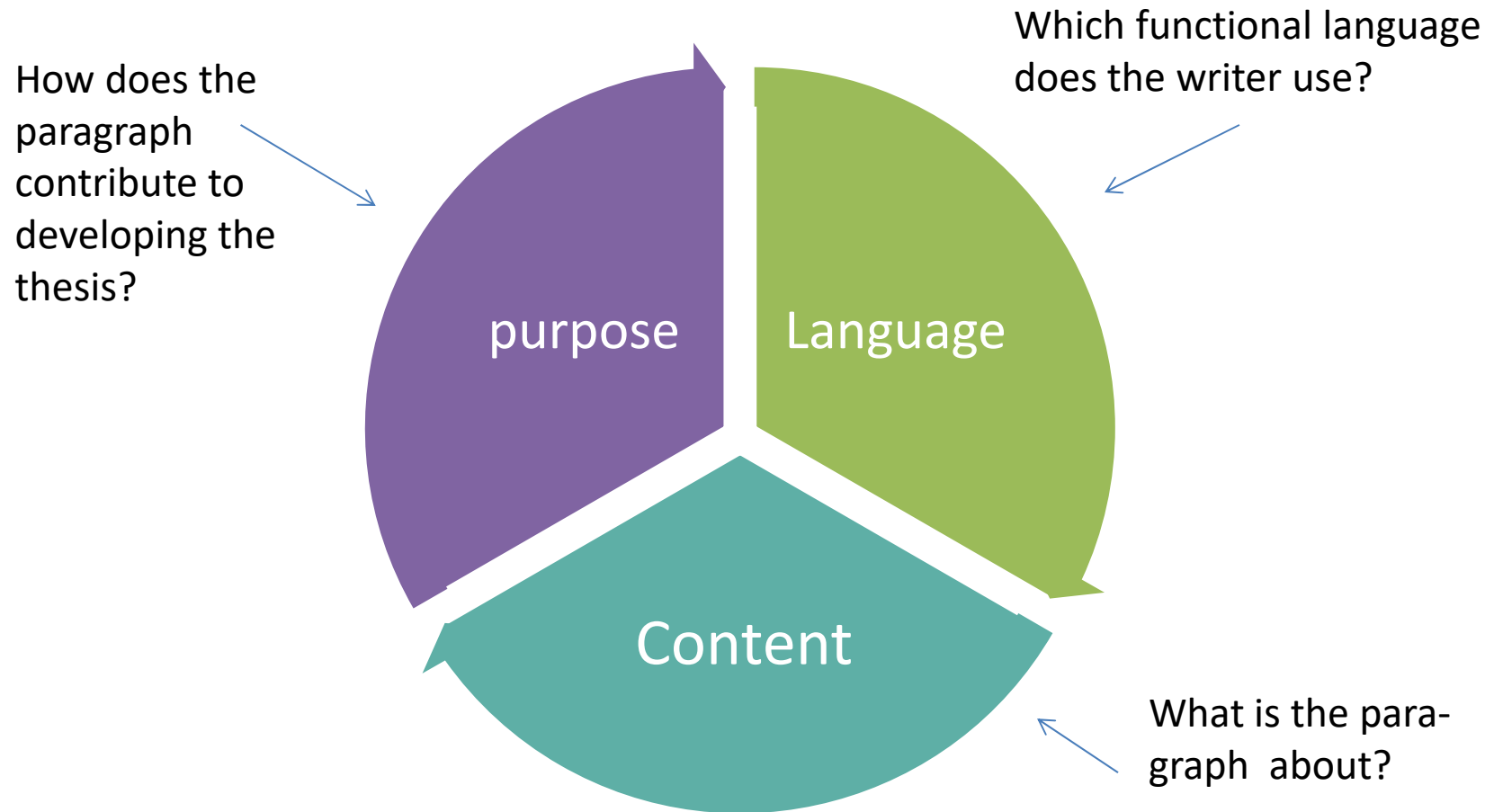
- Jodi
Picoult,
*nineteen
minutes*
- “good kids
who do
bad things”

Contest



Step 1: Genre Learning: Model Texts – Analysis 1

In groups of 3 read and analyze the letter you have chosen.



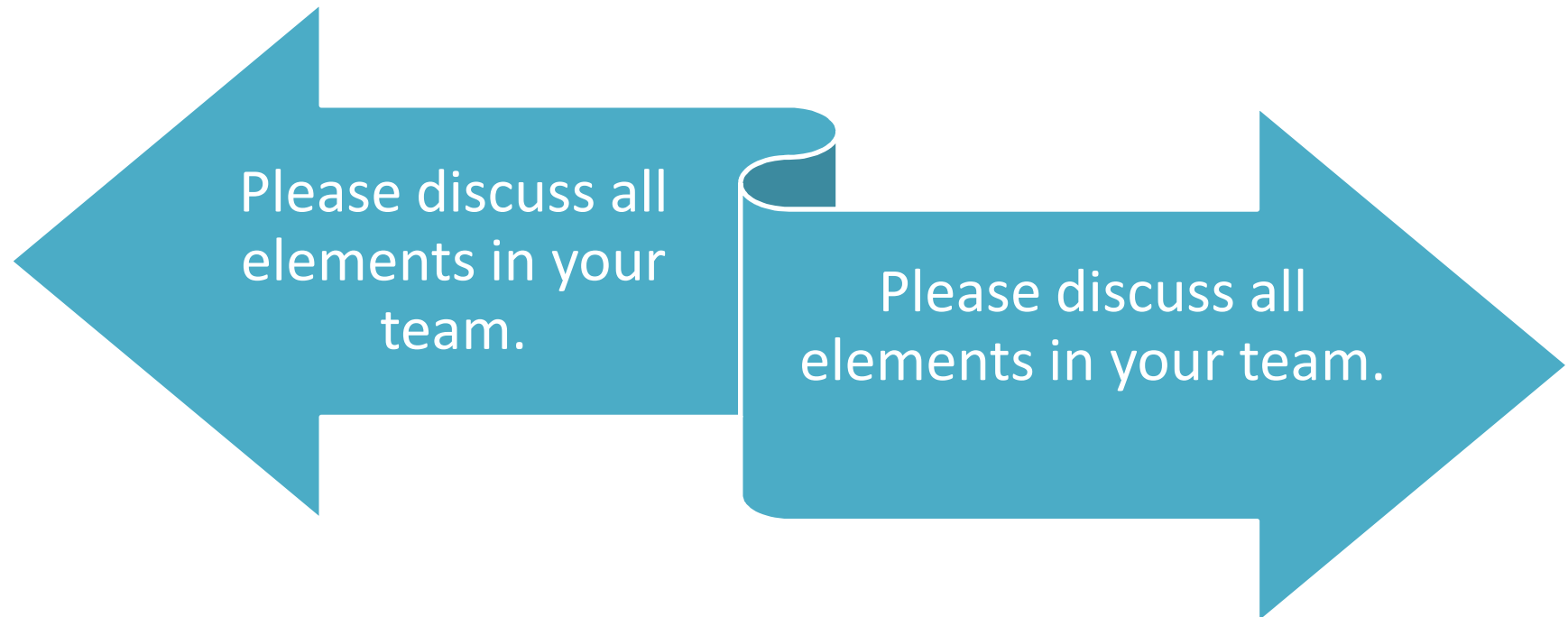
Examples

Help (scaffolding) is available if needed

Content	Purpose	Language
Experience of gender equality in team sports.	The reader's response to the poem: insight Relevant evidence to support the point of view.	<i>... the phenomenon was brought to my attention that...</i>
...
....
		<i>Your poem has inspired me to look more deeply into.....</i>

+ To what extent do you like/dislike the (different parts) of your letter?

Critical evaluation



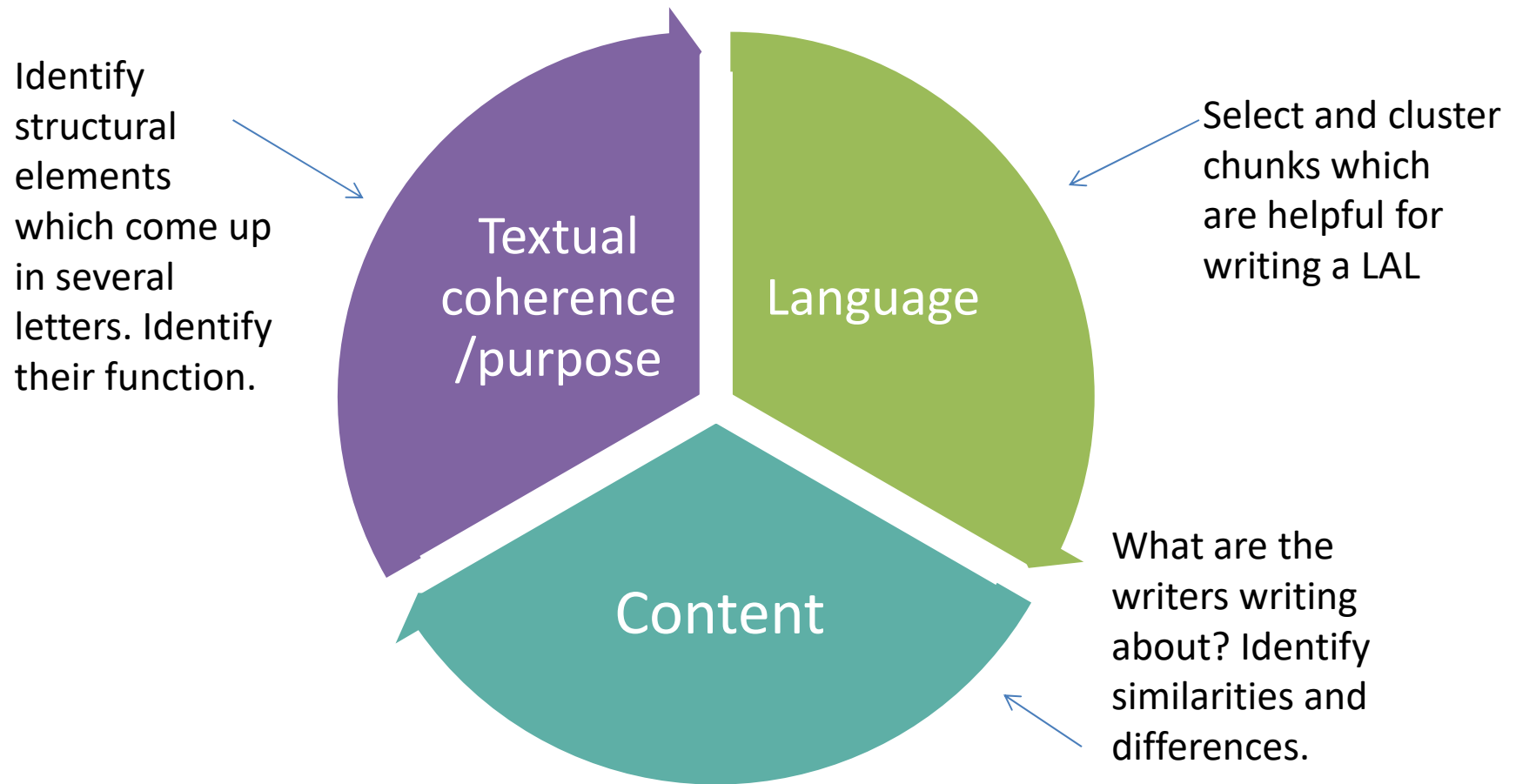
FOR SPEEDIES

- From the letter, draw conclusions what the original book/poem is about.
- Add information by googling.

(back of your worksheet)

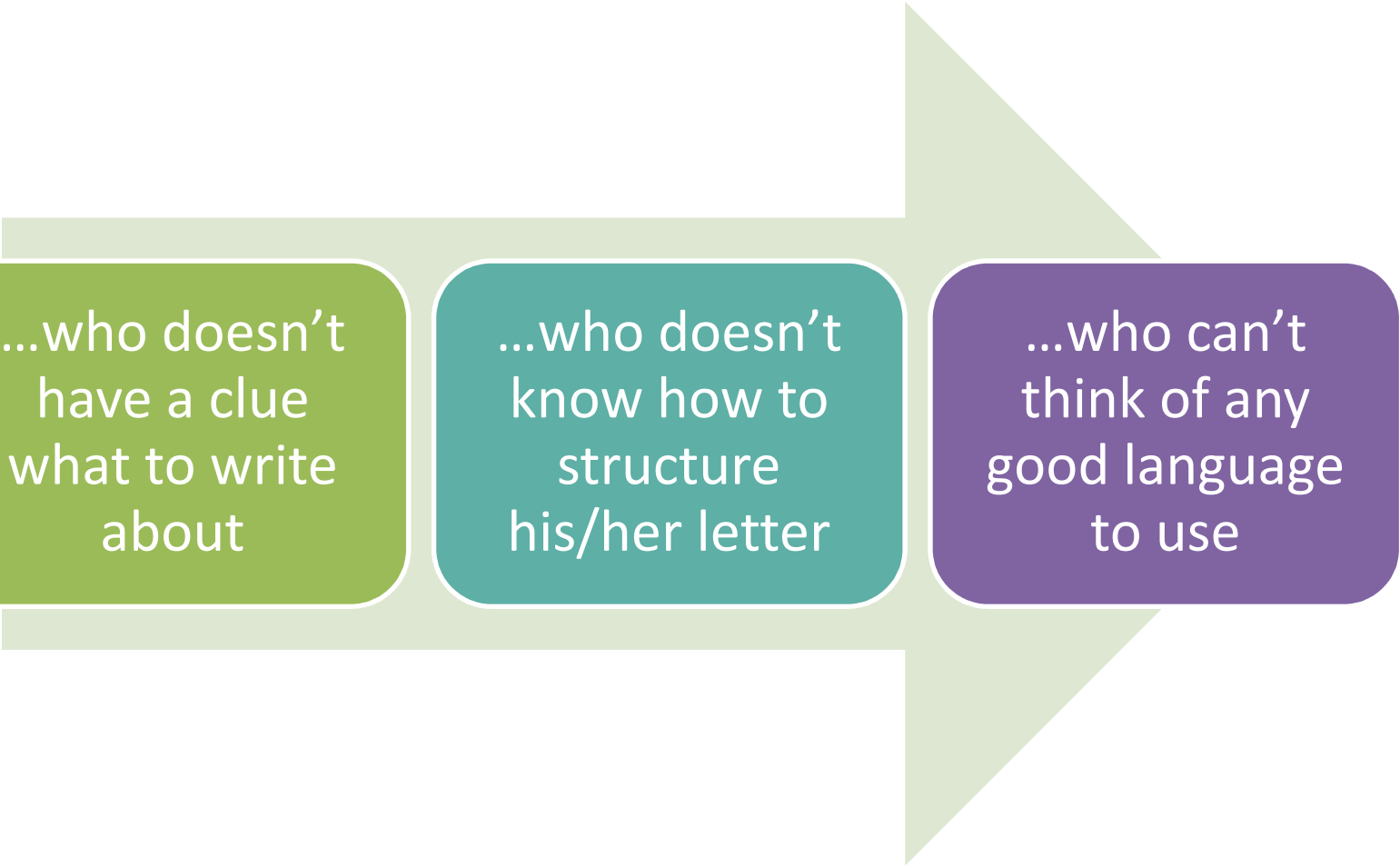
Step 2: Genre Learning: Model Texts – Analysis 2

In mixed groups combine the results from the different letters.



Produce a Tutorial

Give advice to somebody...



...who doesn't
have a clue
what to write
about

...who doesn't
know how to
structure
his/her letter

...who can't
think of any
good language
to use