Show, Don't Tell

Sort 1

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Decide whether the following passages are 'showing' or 'telling'. Sort each under the correct heading.

Diego was with his dad, waiting to see the dentist. He was feeling very nervous about his visit.

Diego was feeling so angry. His brother had broken the tyre on his bicycle.

Diego's hands were shaking as he held the notes for his speech. His face was turning red. Diego couldn't wait to be finished and sitting back at his desk.

Diego shivered as he tucked his chin further down into his woollen scarf.

Diego inspected the back tyre on his bicycle. He gritted his teeth; his fists clenched by his sides. He had told his brother to be careful so many times.

Diego was presenting a speech to the class. He always felt so nervous talking in front of an audience.

Diego was walking through the city in the rain. He was late for the bus.

Diego felt very cold.

"Stop biting your fingernails,"
Diego's father told him. Diego
tried to distract himself with a
magazine. It didn't work; he
couldn't block out the noises
from the dentist's room.

Diego held his umbrella low over his head. He checked his watch and began to hurry in the direction of the bus stop.

Show, Don't Tell Answers

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Diego inspected the back tyre on his bicycle. He gritted his teeth; his fists clenched by his sides. He had told his brother to be careful so many times.	Diego was feeling so angry. His brother had broken the tyre on his bicycle.
Diego shivered as he tucked his chin further down into his woollen scarf.	Diego felt very cold.
Diego held his umbrella low over his head. He checked his watch and began to hurry in the direction of the bus stop.	Diego was walking through the city in the rain. He was late for the bus.
Diego's hands were shaking as he held the notes for his speech. His face was turning red. Diego couldn't wait to be finished and sitting back at his desk.	Diego was presenting a speech to the class. He always felt so nervous talking in front of an audience.
"Stop biting your fingernails," Diego's father told him. Diego tried to distract himself by reading a magazine. It didn't work; he couldn't block out the noises from the dentist's room.	Diego was with his dad, waiting to see the dentist. He was feeling very nervous about his visit.

