

Writing Funny – Dan Freedman’s Tips!

‘Humour is a rubber sword – it allows you to point without drawing blood’

Think about what makes the Roald Dahl books so good. They are funny! The key is to a funny story is to make yourself laugh – if you find something funny there’s every chance the reader will too!

When I’m trying to write funny parts of my books, I use different techniques. Here are some of them:



Embarrassing!

You can never go too far wrong embarrassing situations... Have you ever been in one? Put it in the story... How about the time Jamie gets caught commentating on his own dribbling in *The Kick Off*, page 29-30?

Gross Outs!

Have a look at *Born to Play*, page 13 where kids in the playground throw sickballs. Or *Golden Goal* page 74, where the boys try to puss their spots into a target zone in the mirror! Or all the dog poo on Seaport Town’s training pitches (*Man of the Match*, page 55). A bit of gross action’s always a winner!



Real Stories

Think about a real story that’s happened to you or you’ve seen happen to someone else. Real life is funnier than anything else. Football-wise, so many funny things happen on the pitch in every game. Once a player called Di Canio pushed over a referee! That’s what gave me the idea for Jamie to do the same by mistake on page 70 of *Man of the Match*.

Names and Words

Funny names are always a good one. Have a look at *Shoot to Win*, page 75 when Jamie finds out Mr Hansard’s first name! Or what about some of the things Dillon calls Jamie on page 73 of *Shoot to Win*.



People trying to be Cool!

It’s funny when people try to be too cool! What about Bertorelli’s appearance on page 29 of *Man of the Match*? Jamie thinks he looks like a girl! And in *The Kick Off* on page 24, Jamie gets all sensitive about the colour of his hair!

Remember, you’re the boss, so go with whatever makes you laugh.

Enjoy your stories. That’s the key to any good story... Enjoying writing it...