

The Role of the Teacher and Student in a Writing Conference

The Teacher's Role	The Student's Role
<i>In the first part of the conversation:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the child to set an agenda for the conference • Ask assessment questions • Read the student's writing • Make a teaching decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set the agenda for the conference by describing her writing work • Respond to her teacher's research questions by describing her writing work more deeply
<i>In the second part of the conversation:</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the student critical feedback • Teach the student • Nudge the student to "have-a-go" • Link the conference to the student's independent work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen carefully to her teacher's feedback and teaching • Ask questions to clarify and deepen her understanding of her teacher's feedback and teaching • "Have-a-go" with what her teacher taught her • Commit to trying what her teacher taught her after the conference

(This chart is adapted from my book, *How's It Going? A Practical Guide to Conferring with Student Writers* (2000).)