**Inference**

Writers often tell you more than they say directly. They give you hints or clues that help you "read between the lines." Using these clues to give you a deeper understanding of your reading is called inferring. Inference is using facts, observations, and logic or reasoning to come to an assumption or conclusion. It is not stating the obvious.  
  
Stating the obvious: that girl is wearing a fancy dress and carrying a bouquet of flowers.   
  
Inference: that girl is a flower girl in a wedding.   
  
Inferring is not the same as predicting. Inference asks "What conclusions can you draw about what is happening now?"  Prediction asks, "What will happen next?"

**Activity:**

Look at the picture on the right. A man is using a shovel to dig his car out of the snow. Write a paragraph describing what is happening in the picture. You may use any point of view you like. However, you cannot use the words “snow”, “car” or “vehicle”. You want readers to draw their own conclusions on what is happening without you telling them explicitly.

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