



The Creative Writing Academy



Creative Writing Club

with

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Creative Writing Club



Introduction to Writing Fiction



In the first part of the term, we're going to start with writing fiction. Do you know what Fiction is? And the difference between Fiction and Non-Fiction?



Fiction is stories written or told that are made up, or a complete imagination of the author.



Non-fiction is concerned with writing things that are true and based on verifiable facts.

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Introduction to Writing Fiction

With Fiction, you have complete freedom to create your story from your imagination. You don't have to write about real people, real places or real events. You can make up names, you can make up imaginary places, or even imaginary creatures and planets.

If you're writing non-fiction, you can't make things up. You have to ensure that the information you're presenting is correct and accurate. You have to use real places, real people, real data and so on.

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Introduction to Writing Fiction

Examples of Fiction are:

Poems, Short Stories, Novels, Plays, and Scripts. These can be broadly divided into Genres such as Mystery, Thriller, Folktales, Adventure, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror, Romance and so on.

Examples of Non-fiction are:

Essays, Reports, Articles, Memos, Motivational Books, School Textbooks, Biographies, Autobiographies and Memoirs.

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Introduction to Writing Fiction

Since we're going to be focused on writing fiction in this section, let's talk a little about why people read and write fiction.

Have you ever read an interesting story, or watched an interesting movie? What did you think about it?

Did you enjoy it? Did it make you entertained?

Did it make you happy, or surprised, or upset?

Did it make you imagine yourself in the story, or see the world through the characters' eyes?

Did it make you stop thinking about your own environment for a while, and immerse yourself in the world created in the story?

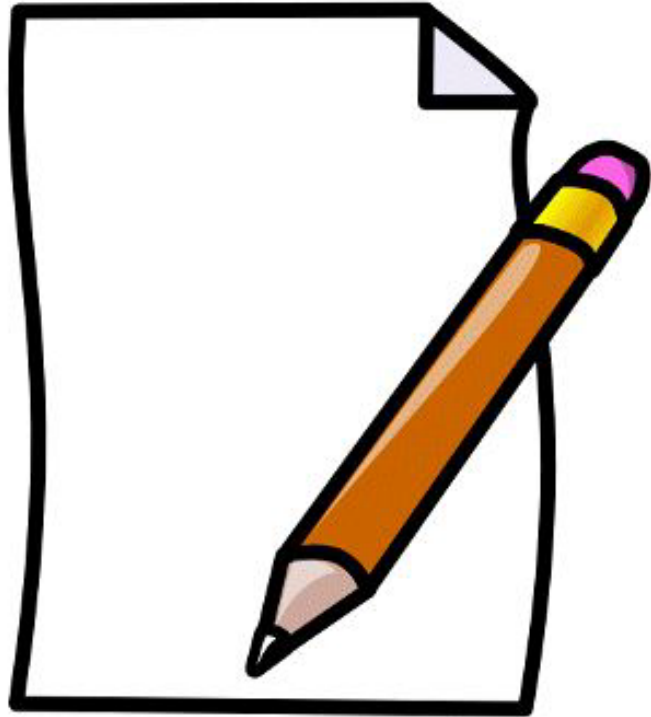
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Introduction to Writing Fiction

Well, that's what fiction does! We read fiction to be entertained, to be informed, to experience different emotions, to empathise with other people, and to step out of our own world for a short time and see the world through another person's perspective.

We write fiction to express our creativity, explore our imagination, play with different ideas, and keep our readers entertained.

Now we know **why** we read fiction; we now need to know **how** to write it!



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- ▶ **How to Write Fiction**

- ▶ When you want to write a fiction story, you need four storytelling concepts:

- ▶ **Characters**

- ▶ **Setting**

- ▶ **Point of View**

- ▶ **Plot**

- ▶ These concepts are concerned with **Who, Where, When, Whom and What**. We will discuss these in more detail.

- ▶ But first, you must start with an interesting idea.....

How to Write Fiction



- ▶ To write a story, you must start with an interesting idea.....
- ▶ Have you written any stories before? What are some of the things that interest you? What kind of stories do you enjoy reading? They might help you discover what you would enjoy writing.
- ▶ Do you like adventure stories?
- ▶ Do you like animal stories?
- ▶ Do you like fairy tale stories?
- ▶ Do you like scary stories?
- ▶ Do you like stories about friendship?
- ▶ Do you like stories about sporting activities?

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How to Write Fiction

When you have chosen an idea that you like, you'll need the four storytelling concepts to write it.

First you'll need Characters

Characters are the people in your story.

Characters are the “Who” in your story. You can't have a story without people in it, so you need to create some!

They could be grown ups, they could be children, they could be animals, or even objects and non-living things.

They could be fairies and other mythical creatures. They could be princesses, explorers, gods and goddesses, spirits, dragons, elves or goblins. They could be nice people, or wicked people.

You can create all kinds of characters as long as they are important to the type of story you want to tell.



How to Write Fiction



- ▶ Next, you'll need a **Setting** for your story. Your setting describes the place or places where your story takes place. It also defines the time period.
- ▶ So the setting is **where** and **when** your story takes place.
- ▶ Your setting can be in school, at the park, in the desert, in fairy land, at the airport, in the animal kingdom, up in the mountains, down in the sea, etc. It can be a real place like a country, or it can be a fictional place that you make up.
- ▶ Your setting can be in the past, the present or the future. It can be a long time ago, it can be last year, it can be last week, or even yesterday! Your setting can also be in an imaginary future.

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How to Write Fiction

Next, you'll need to choose a Point of View


The Point of View shows us who is telling the story of the people in your story.

Your Point of View can be:

First Person

Second Person or

Third Person



Who...
is telling the story?

Point of View

1st Person	2nd Person	3rd Person
Told by a character in the story	Narrator will address the reader	Told by a narrator that is NOT in the story
Keywords: I me we	Keywords: you your yours	Keywords: he she names of characters

How to Write Fiction

- ▶ And finally, you'll need a **Plot**
- ▶ The **Plot** is what happens in the story.
- ▶ The **plot** should have a beginning, a middle and an end.
- ▶ It should have a problem, conflict, a climax, and a resolution.



Plot

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▶ So that's our introduction to writing fiction! Now you know the four basic storytelling concepts you need:

- ▶ Characters - Who is in the story?
- ▶ Setting - Where and when is the story taking place?
- ▶ Point of View - Who is telling the story?
- ▶ Plot - What happens in the story?

▶ We will go over each one in more detail in the coming weeks. For now, I want you to practice writing a short story, using all these elements. Have a look at the workbook and choose one of the story ideas. Work on it and send your story to me via email.



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If you have any questions, ask me via email or during our class on Saturday.

Thank You.