



# Creative writing

**Duration:** Eight hour-long sessions, schedule to be determined  
**Location:** Tutor's Zoom link & Google docs

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**Course Description:** The creative writing course will introduce students to some of our favorite (and age-appropriate) texts of poetry, fiction, and personal essay. Students will be assigned various prompts to generate creative work of their own, to be revised into a final product of which they are profoundly proud. The course is designed to build students' skill, joy, and confidence in writing.

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**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, students will:

- Work with various texts and writing assignments that advance and complicate their creative abilities
  - Learn about the process of invention, writing, and revision in a positive environment
  - Acquire knowledge of correct grammar, style, and syntax
  - Learn to work meaningfully in a small group setting
  - Have the opportunity, when relevant, to submit their creative work to writing contests
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**Calendar:** This calendar, like life, is subject to change, and may be modified by individual tutors to fit the needs of the particular class

## Week 1: Introduction & Words

- Students will introduce themselves with a creative writing exercise, building community and rapport.
- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will deeply study the units of writing: words.
- Students will read a poem using metaphor to use as a model for their homework assignment.

## Week 2: Concrete language

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will learn about the necessity of concrete language in their writing.
- Students will put this skill into practice, converting vague sentences into more specific and concrete ones.
- Students will read a poem using concrete language and emotional intensity to use as a model for their homework assignment.

## Week 3: Sounds of words

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.



- Students will learn about sound devices used in poetry to enhance meaning (euphony, cacophony, etc.).
- Students will read a poem using sound devices as a model for their writing assignment.
- Students will begin their writing assignment which will focus on creating sounds to establish poetic meaning.

#### **Week 4: Diction & Metaphor**

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will review language skills learned in previous weeks.
- Students will read poems using metaphor with mastery to use as a model for their homework assignment.
- Students will complete a fun exercise in which limits are placed on their language, resulting in more careful attention paid to their writing.

#### **Week 5: Style**

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will study the necessity of, and strategies for, being concise in their writing.
- Students will complete fun creative exercises that rely on personifying their environment based on varying emotional states.

#### **Week 6: Fictional characters**

- Students will read and engage with various quotes by fictional authors to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will create a complex fictional character of their own, considering the desires of their character and the conflict they encounter.
- Students will flesh out their characters by describing specific details about their lives.

#### **Week 7: Fictional scenes**

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will learn how to write convincing dialogue and stage directions as ways to depict three-dimensional characters, using excerpts of fictional stories as models.
- Students will compose a scene for their stories using the skills we learned in class.

#### **Week 8: Voice**

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will read creative work that gives human voice to non-human narrators, discussing what makes the writing effective and convincing.
- Students will write a passage of their own, personifying an inanimate object.
- Students will review the necessity of concrete language and complete an exercise using it.