

Year 8 Creative Writing Toolkit

Narrative and Descriptive Writing Pack

What Makes Great Creative Writing?

Creative writing uses:

- Powerful vocabulary
- Interesting characters
- Exciting plot ideas
- Sensory description
- Varied sentence structures
- Figurative language
- Strong openings and endings

Good writers make readers picture the scene clearly and feel emotions strongly.

Story Prompt Ideas

Narrative Writing Prompts

1. You discover a locked door at the back of your school that nobody else seems to notice.
 2. A strange package arrives at your house with no name attached.
 3. During a storm, the electricity cuts out and something unusual appears outside your window.
 4. You wake up and realise everyone in your town has disappeared.
 5. A new student joins your class but never speaks.
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Descriptive Writing Prompts

1. Describe a deserted amusement park at night.
2. Describe a busy city street during heavy rain.
3. Describe the inside of an ancient abandoned house.
4. Describe a peaceful beach at sunrise.

5. Describe a forest during a thunderstorm.

Planning Frame for Narrative Writing

Title

Main Characters

Name: _____

Appearance: _____

Personality: _____

Goal or problem: _____

Setting

Where does the story take place?

What does it look, sound and feel like?

Story Structure

Opening

Introduce the setting and characters.

Build-Up

What problem or mystery appears?

Climax

What exciting moment happens?

Ending

How is the problem solved?

Descriptive Writing Planning Grid

Sense	What can be described?
Sight	<hr/>
Sound	<hr/>
Smell	<hr/>
Touch	<hr/>
Taste	<hr/>

Figurative Language Toolkit

Simile

Compares something using "like" or "as."

Example:

The wind howled like a wild animal.

Metaphor

Says something is something else.

Example:

The classroom was a volcano ready to erupt.

Personification

Gives human qualities to objects or nature.

Example:

The trees danced in the storm.

Alliteration

Repeated beginning sounds.

Example:

The slippery snake slithered silently.

Onomatopoeia

Words that imitate sounds.

Example:

Crash! Bang! Splash!

Powerful Vocabulary Bank

Instead of "said"

- whispered
 - muttered
 - shouted
 - exclaimed
 - snapped
 - cried
 - announced
-

Instead of "walked"

- marched
- wandered
- crept
- stomped
- sprinted

- tiptoed
-

Words to Describe Weather

- gloomy
 - freezing
 - scorching
 - misty
 - stormy
 - humid
 - blinding
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Sentence Variety Tips

Short Sentence

Creates tension.

Example:

The door creaked open.

Longer Sentence

Adds detail and description.

Example:

The ancient wooden door creaked open slowly as dust drifted through the dim hallway.

Question Sentence

Builds suspense.

Example:

What was hiding in the shadows?

Show, Don't Tell

Instead of telling the reader emotions directly, show actions and reactions.

Telling

Ben was scared.

Showing

Ben's hands trembled as he backed away from the dark doorway.

Creative Writing Checklist

Before finishing your work, check:

- Have I used paragraphs?
 - Have I included descriptive vocabulary?
 - Have I used punctuation accurately?
 - Have I varied my sentence lengths?
 - Have I used figurative language?
 - Have I described settings clearly?
 - Have I checked spelling and grammar?
 - Does my ending make sense?
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Editing Checklist

Capital Letters

- Sentence beginnings
 - Names of people and places
-

Punctuation

- Full stops
- Commas
- Apostrophes

Speech marks

Vocabulary

Interesting adjectives

Strong verbs

Powerful adverbs

Challenge Tasks

1. Write a story using the sentence:

“Nobody was supposed to open the box.”

1. Describe a place without naming it directly.

2. Write a suspense paragraph using at least:

3. one simile

4. one rhetorical question

5. one short sentence

6. one example of personification

7. Rewrite a boring sentence to make it more exciting.

Example:

The dog ran.

Improved:

Teacher Notes

This toolkit can be used for:

- Independent writing tasks
- Homework activities
- KS3 English revision
- Literacy intervention groups

- Guided creative writing lessons
- Cover lessons