Autumn Writing 2022

Years 567

Effective creative writing is all about perfecting some key styles, elements and genres. In this course we will be working around several different ways and purposes in writing, thinking about how genre plays into our understanding of what writing requires of us. For each different type of writing genre or style, we will consider the key conventions of each, looking at what is important to remember and how to use them in original and interesting ways, whilst also focusing on expanding the students’ comfort zone, enabling them to play around with language in a creative and innovative way. By the end of these ten weeks, they will have had the opportunity to practice and perfect their use of nine central writing genres, and will have also taken a mock exam, designed to help them find their own unique, original voice in their writing, experimenting with style and creating a distinctive authorial voice. They will have a homework task every week that enables them to showcase their grasp of each genre and receive weekly feedback on their writing.

***Lesson 1:* Genre Writing**

This lesson focuses on how to use genre in creative writing and how to play around with the conventions and clichés of different genres (i.e. adventure, sci-fi, comedy, fairy-tale etc.) in order to make their creative writing come to life. This lesson will work around the prompt of exam questions based on writing from a title and will explore using genre to help speed-plan stories and play with the reader’s perceptions, considering an extract from the book *Holes.*

***Lesson 2:* Suspense Writing**

This lesson focuses on the conventions of suspense writing, looking at new elements such as foreshadowing, pathetic fallacy and flashback, whilst also consolidating the class’s knowledge of story arc structure and “show don’t tell”, based off the prompt of a suspense story by Roald Dahl.

***Lesson 3:* Descriptive Writing**

This lesson focuses on how to write a vivid descriptive piece, as opposed to plot-driven narrative piece. It will look at broadening vocabulary, character creation and bringing out character voice, writing a vivid emotive diary entry and analysing language choice, based on the prompt of writing descriptively about a school for ninjas.

***Lesson 4:* Poetry Writing**

This lesson focuses on introducing the students to poetry writing, looking at poetic techniques, how to conjure up vivid imagery, how to speed-rhyme and how to use meter and rhythm in poetry, based off the prompt of a Shakespearian poem.

***Lesson 5:* Historical Writing**

This lesson focuses on setting, looking at how students can create a real sense of time and place in their writing. This class will look at how to write from the perspective of different historical periods and famous events in history, thinking about what might be different from a story set in the modern day working from an extract from a piece of historical fiction.

***Lesson 6:* Speech Writing**

This lesson focuses on speech writing, looking at the persuasive techniques, rhetorical devices, rousing language, audience awareness and characterisation necessary for writing a successful speech, using the prompt of Lincoln’s *Gettysburg Address* and Martin Luther King’s *I Have A Dream* speech

***Lesson 7:* Persuasive Article Writing**

This lesson focuses on introducing the concept of persuasive writing, looking at persuasive techniques, essay structure and how to write a newspaper article. This will introduce them to writing a three-point article using Point, Evidence, Explain on the topic of convenience food, based off a source article on a similar subject.

***Lesson 8:* Continuing a Story**

This lesson focuses on how to write a story using someone else’s characters, setting and background stories, whilst also considering ideas such as perspective and narrative voice. It will use the prompt of an exam paper question which asks students to continue and re-imagine an extract of text from the perspective of another character.

***Lesson 9:* Script Writing**

This lesson focuses on introducing the students to how to write a script, looking at dramatic elements, structure and form, sound effects, and play-writing. We will also discuss things like staging, costume, characterisation and monologue, based off the prompt of several famous short plays.

***Lesson 10:* Mock Exam**

This lesson will contain a mock exam to help test the students’ skills, enabling them to showcase all they have learnt about writing over the past sessions. They will be asked to complete an exam under timed conditions, which we will then go through step by step as a class. They will have their exam graded and returned to them after the lesson.