



## Imagination Writing

### FREEWITING

#### *What is it?*

Freewriting is a stream-of-consciousness style of writing. It means taking a topic (word or phrase) and writing whatever comes to your mind about that topic for a specific period of time. The key, though, is to never let your pen/pencil/fingers on keyboard stop moving! It doesn't matter if there's little sense or logic to your ramblings. It can be fiction (you make up everything, maybe from a character's perspective) or non-fiction (it's all from your own life and experiences or things you've heard about) or a combination of the two. It doesn't matter because there's no right or wrong!

#### *Activity*

Choose from the following list of words/phrases. They are broken out by age group, but feel free to mix and match, depending your own interests and who you're writing with. The most fun would be to print or write them out, cut them up, and put them in a hat. Then pick one and start writing!

- Set a timer for five minutes.
- Read the word/phrase. If you're with others, read it aloud.
- Start the timer and write whatever comes into your head—don't stop to think—just write!
- When the timer beeps, put down your pen/pencil (or stop typing) immediately—even if you're in the middle of a word.
- Read over what you wrote—can you follow your own thought process?
  - If you're with others, you may choose to share your ramblings with them.

#### *Modifications*

- Change the amount of time. What can you think of in only two minutes? Can you write on one topic for 10 minutes?
- Change the tone (i.e.: it must always be humorous or it must always be scary, etc.).
- Implement some rules (i.e.: use as many words with the letter "y" in them as you can. Write only in present tense. Write all in capital letters.).
- Create your own list of words/phrases (i.e.: family stories, specific hobbies, special interests).

*FreeWriting Word List*

<i>Younger Writers</i>	<i>Teen Writers</i>	<i>Adult Writers</i>
Cats and dogs	Social media	Dental benefits
Family vacations	Lockers	First kiss
School Recess	Favorite word	Moving and pizza
Sneezing	Math homework	Friday nights
Silly movies	Driver's license	Favorite mug
Robots and dinosaurs	Earliest childhood memory	Sandwich generation
Imaginary friends	Best friend	Funniest TV show
Birthday parties	English essays	Kids
Pirates and elves	Parents' favorite expression	The meaning of life
Ocean	Sports teams	Inside jokes