



Creative Writings



Creative writing is a form of writing that goes beyond the bounds of academic, technical, or journalistic writing. It emphasizes narrative craft, character development, and the use of literary tropes and poetic techniques to evoke emotion and imagination. It includes genres such as fiction, poetry, memoirs, screenwriting, and more.

What are the different types of creative writing?

- *Biographies*
- *Fiction: novels, novellas, short stories, etc.*
- *Speeches*
- *Poetry and spoken word*
- *Playwriting/scriptwriting*
- *Personal essays*
- *Speeches*

What are some techniques used in creative writing?

To make their writing stand out, writers often employ several creative writing techniques and literary devices, including:

- *Character development - The process of creating a well-rounded, realistic character with depth, personality, and clear goals or motivations.*
- *Plot development - The story of your piece of writing - how it develops, unfolds, and moves along in time.*
- *Point of view - The perspective from which a narrative is told. It indicates who is telling the story and how the information is conveyed to the reader. Quite often writers will play with the point of view of the central character or protagonist to trick the reader and twist their perspective.*

- *Dialogue - Refers to the speech and conversations characters use to speak to one another. Dialogue and the language choices a character makes can be pivotal in helping define their personality.*
- *Literary devices - Such as metaphors, similes and alliteration to make creative writing more imaginative and descriptive. These are used in a myriad of ways by writers to make their writing more vivid, interesting and engaging.*

Key Characteristics of Creative Writing-

- *Imaginative storytelling: Often involves fictional elements or imaginative scenarios.*
- *Expressive language: Uses figurative language, metaphors, and rich descriptions.*
- *Character and plot development: Focuses on building compelling characters and engaging narratives.*
- *Voice and style: Writers often infuse their unique voice or tone.*
- *Emotional impact: Aims to evoke feelings, provoke thought, or entertain.*

Common Techniques in Creative Writing

Show, Don't Tell

Instead of stating facts, show them through actions, thoughts, senses, and dialogue.

Telling: "She was sad."

Showing: "She stared at the floor, her fingers twisting the hem of her shirt."

Metaphor and Simile

Comparisons to add depth or vivid imagery.

Simile: "His words hit like a slap."

Metaphor: "Her mind was a stormy sea."

Dialogue

Brings characters to life and reveals relationships, background, and tension.

Should feel natural and distinct for each character.

Point of View (POV)

First person, second person, third person limited or omniscient—each affects how the story is experienced.

Pacing

Adjusting the rhythm of your writing to control tension and interest. Short sentences = fast pace; longer, descriptive passages = slower pace.

Foreshadowing

Dropping subtle hints about what's to come to build anticipation or tension.

Imagery

Using sensory details to paint vivid mental pictures.

Symbolism

Objects, characters, or actions that represent larger ideas or themes.

Flashbacks

Scenes from the past to provide context, backstory, or insight into a character's motivations.

Tone and Mood

Tone: The author's attitude.

Example: Sarcastic, serious, humorous.

Mood: The emotional atmosphere experienced by the reader.

Example: Gloomy, hopeful, eerie.