

WRITING PROMPTS

telling a story

- Remembering your favourite holiday/ birthday
- A funny or embarrassing story that happened to them
- The first time you tried to do something and it went horrible wrong
- Something that happened at School or Work
- Telling a stories about something that happened to someone else
- A fantasy story that your character has made up

telling a secret

- A friend betrayed you so you are telling an embarrassing secret about them
- Confessing to a crime
- Telling an evil plan you are about begin
- Telling someone else's secret they trusted you with
- Starting a made up secret to cause an argument between friends
- A secret of a deceased family member

answering a question

- Explaining to a teacher why you didn't do your homework
- Explaining to your boss why you are late for work
- Explaining to your parents why you are home late
- Explaining to your family/friends why you should go on an adventure
- Explaining to a friend why you can't go to their birthday party
- Explaining why you chose not to do what they asked of you

emotional release

- You are stuck in an elevator
- You have a test tomorrow and haven't studied
- You have just realised you have won the lottery
- You are angry about something someone has done to you
- You are upset about your life not going the way you want it to
- You are frustrated that no one understands you and always wants you to be something you are not

BEGINNING, MIDDLE + END

Example 1. you have a test tomorrow & haven't studied

Beginning:

- Mum has told you to go to bed
- I explain I'm too stressed about the test to sleep

Middle:

- Explain why I haven't studied
- Start panicking that if I don't pass the test I won't get into university and I won't get a good job and my life will be over

End:

- Realise that maybe I am over reacting
- Reveal it is only a spelling test

Example 2. the first time you tried to do something and it went wrong

Beginning:

- The first time I tried to ride a bike without stabilisers, dad was teaching me
- Describe the day and how I felt

Middle:

- Describe the thrill and freedom
- Dad let go, I lost control, fell into a pile of dog poo

End:

- Explain how I never gave up, I got straight back on my bike, I kept trying and trying
- 20 years later I won gold for cycling at the olympics

Example 3. confessing to a crime

Beginning:

- Talking to the headteacher
- Refusing to admit I was the one that pulled the fire alarm

Middle:

- I realise it was the wrong thing to do and the headteacher will not give up
- I have to admit it and apologise

End:

- I beg not to be expelled, I only did it to look cool because I have no friends

Example 4. explaining to your family why you should go on a camping trip

Beginning:

- Explaining to my family why we should go and promising it will be better than last time

Middle:

- Realising I really don't know anything about camping and all of the things that could go wrong

End:

- Deciding it would be a better idea to stay home

OPENING + CLOSING LINES

opening lines...

Example 1: You have a test tomorrow and haven't studied

"I can't go to bed yet mum, I have a test tomorrow that could define my entire future..."

Example 2: The first time you tried to do something and it went horribly wrong

"I can remember it like it was yesterday, hopping onto my bright red bike, with go faster stripes down the sides. Dad had just taken the training wheels off..."

Example 3: Confessing to a crime

"Before you ask it wasn't me, what would I gain from pulling the fire alarm and I think it is highly unfair to keep the whole school in detention for one person's idiotic act..."

Example 4: Explaining to your family why you should go on a camping trip

"I know last time didn't quite go to plan but this time will be different I promise..."

closing lines...

Example 1: You have a test tomorrow and haven't studied

"You're right I should get some sleep, after all it is only a spelling test"

Example 2: The first time you tried to do something and it went horribly wrong

"I must have fallen off that bike 40 times before I could ride it properly but I never gave up and that's the reason I'm sitting here now with an Olympic Gold Medal around my neck."

Example 3: Confessing to a crime

"I just want to fit in, I haven't made any friend since moving here, not one, I thought people might think I was cool. Please don't tell my parents."

Example 4: Explaining to your family why you should go on a camping trip

"Ok you're right, maybe it's best if we just stay at home. Anyone want to watch a movie?"

MOMENT OF DISCOVERY

Example 1: You have a test tomorrow and haven't studied

The character realises that they are overreacting and getting stressed out over a spelling test

Example 2: The first time you tried to do something and it went horribly wrong

For the audience - the lesson to never give up and you will reach your dreams

Example 3: Confessing to a crime

Realising there is nothing cool about breaking the rules

Example 4: Explaining to your family why you should go on a camping trip

Realising I sound ridiculous and know absolutely nothing about camping

EXAMPLE MONOLOGUES

Kid Hero (Boy or Girl)

I've always dreamed of being a hero. I've tried everything to become super. I let a spider bite me... no spider powers; just lots of itching. I tried standing too close to the microwave oven hoping the radiation would change me. Nothing. And I got in trouble for making so many bags of popcorn. But I took it all to school and had a popcorn party. I was a hero that day. So I guess it kinda worked.

I love being a hero. I love helping people. I love making them happy. And I hate bad guys. I hate creeps who hurt people.

There's this kid at school... he is always hurting everyone. I am sick of him hurting us. I just need those super powers. I need something that will make him stop!

Maybe if I eat more of the school lunches. They look radioactive. If I get enough green hotdogs and brown ketchup in me... something is bound to happen. (excited)

And I need a catch phrase like "gonna smoosh me a baddie"... and a cool costume... actually last time I was in the bathroom, I saw the perfect superhero name. Protecto! Instead of a telephone booth like superman, I could use a bathroom stall and those Protecto seat covers could be a cape... and make a toilet paper mask. Nothing scares bad guys more than bathroom stuff. (thinks then frowns) Or maybe it will really make them want to give me a swirly. I better rethink this.

TIMMY Timmy tries to convince his mom that his messy room is not his fault.

Mom, it's not my fault my room's a mess! Me and Anthony were playing with his new race cars. Only four of them. And we heard a weird noise out- side, so we opened the window. This huge spaceship landed and a slimy, green alien with three heads came out and jumped in the window. Anthony tried to shoot him with my zapper gun, but it didn't even hurt him — he just got real mad. So he knocked all the books off my shelf and picked up my toy box with his long, purple antennas and dumped it all over my room. So I threw a Frisbee at him and it bonked him on his third head and he slimed out the window and the spaceship disappeared into the sky. Geez, Mom, you should be happy I'm still alive!

Secret Love

There is something that I've been hiding from everyone I know. It has been on my mind a lot so I want to get it off my chest. I know this obsession may be overboard, but it is a part of me. It's been bottled up inside of me for too long because I wasn't sure what people would think. I have a forbidden love, the kind of love that is not supposed to exist. Some say that this love isn't natural, but it is everything I need and more. Many people say that it has to be a man and a woman that fall in love, but to those people I say that love wins. I love the warmth that my love gives me; it is very sweet and comforting. I cannot achieve this kind of love with anything else. There is no breaking me apart from my beloved. I don't care what anyone else thinks anymore because I have found love. So, this is me announcing my love to the world; I love pancakes. Pancakes love me too. The connection that I share with pancakes cannot be compared to anything else. This is not lust; this is pure love in its purest form. If you look at my eyes whenever I see a pancake you may notice that my eyes twitch. Pancakes understand me for who I am; they complete me. The soft and chewy cake is all I need in my life; and now the world knows that I am proud to be a pancake lover!

EXAMPLE MONOLOGUES

Dog Ate My Homework

I'm sorry. I don't have my math homework, Mrs. Williams. I have a really good reason. You might think I'm lying, but I'm not. Everybody thinks that when you dog eats your homework you are for sure lying, and you just didn't get it done, but what if your dog actually eats your homework? Then what do you do? That's what happened to my homework. Our tiny evil poodle ate it. We have to be careful in our house because that poof-ball, who only likes my mother, eats everything, including gross stuff out of the cat box. So, I got home and I set my homework on the table and I went to get some graham crackers and milk. After that, my brother wanted to play hoops in the driveway and he never wants me to play with him, so I did. When I got back inside, my homework was chewed up on the floor and the Devil Dog was hiding under the sofa. So, that's it. My real story about how my dog actually did eat my homework.

A frustrated teacher deals with a rowdy class.

Alright class! Listen up! Because of last weeks' "events," we are going to try this again. Everyone get out your pencils. And no throwing them this time! Jane, put that cell phone away! I will not hesitate to take it! Shawn, stop trying to light Cindy's hair on fire! There is barely any left from last time! Jason! Don't you dare throw that chair out the window! Jaaasssoon... Jason! Ugh! you guys are worse today than yesterday, and now I have to replace that window! I am calling the principal! (picks up phone) Hello Mr. Sanchez? We need you in the fifth-grade classroom. What do you mean you are busy? There's no way those kindergartners are worse than these kids. oh...oh... They did that? Oh well, I hope Mrs. Smith recovers. Those kindergartners should be ashamed for doing that to her. Well, stay safe, and I hope the pencil wound in your arm heals. (hangs up) Okay class, new test! We are going to see how good you are at finding a new teacher because I quit! I am going to be a janitor! I rather clean up other people's messes than teach you! Adios!

Mean Girls

GRETCHEN: We only wear jeans or track pants on Friday. You can't wear a tank top two days in a row. You can only wear your hair in a ponytail once a week. So, I guess, you picked today. And if you break any of these rules you can't sit with us at lunch. I mean, not just you, any of us. Like, if I was wearing jeans today, I would be sitting over there with the art freaks.

We always vote before we ask someone to eat lunch with us, because you have to be considerate of the rest of the group. I mean, you wouldn't buy a skirt without asking your friends first if it looks good on you. It's the same with guys. You may think you like someone, but you could be wrong.

Denise tells her former best friend how much he's changed since Elementary School.

DENISE: Oh my God. Listen to you: "I ain't no phony." Hey, you know what? There's a mirror up there. Take a look. Anyway, why do you care what I think of you? You haven't spoken to me since sixth grade. I know exactly who you are. You're Kenny Fisher who used to play "Bionic Man" with me in my basement. You're Kenny Fisher who used to sleep over my house and needed to leave the hall light on all night. You're Kenny Fisher who used to buy me a card every Valentine's Day and a bag of those chalky hearts with the little words on them. And you're Kenny Fisher who suddenly became too cool to hang with me once we hit junior high. Because I had glasses, because I was smart, and because I didn't look good in those skimpy little bodysuit tops all the popular girls were wearing. And anyone who can ditch their best friend like that, in my opinion, is a big phony.