

Tips for involving the YNWC in the classroom and your work with young people

Creative writing prompts

Begin a session using the creative writing prompts we have available online - there are over 80 to choose from! Visit nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk/teaching-resources

Here's a sample from each category:

Script

You're giving the concept of imagination as a gift to your best friend. Write a scene in dialogue.

Lyrics

Tell the story of a poignant time in your life. What words keep reoccurring?
If you wrote a song to earth, what would it say?

Prose fiction

You are at the beach, and you find some unfamiliar tracks in the sand. You follow the tracks - what do you find?

Prose non-fiction

Think of someone well-known who you admire, or are intrigued by. Write a biographical piece using your research skills. What does the story of their life say?

Poetry

You are a time traveller and accidentally introduce twenty-first century slang to Shakespeare. Rewrite one of his sonnets or soliloquies using modern slang.

Free writing

We love this one at NCW! Give your group five minutes of free writing time. Play a piece of music which does not have lyrics. Ask students to write continuously for five minutes in response to the music. Tip: to prompt writers, ask them to think about what emotions come to mind when they listen.

Recognising a writer

Do you know a young person who has a YouTube channel and has the gift of the gab? Encourage them to write down what they have to say and enter it as a script.

Young people are becoming increasingly politicised. Perhaps you know someone who has lots to say about the world? Suggest they write a think piece about an issue they are passionate about.

Do you know a gamer with a flare for narrative? We accept storyboard ideas for games designs.

Graphic novels are on the rise and young people are devouring them! Do you know a person with a talent for illustration, or would like to have a go at writing/drawing a graphic story?

Know a young musician who writes songs? Encourage them to enter their lyrics. They can also enter audio files if they're also singers.

How to enter the Young Norfolk Writing Competition

Go to nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk/ynwc and follow the link to the online entry form. Alternatively, you can email your entry to competitions@nationalcentreforwriting.org.uk.

Remember to include your name, age, school year, school, and a contact email/phone number for your teacher, parent or carer.

The competition is open to all 11 to 18s who live or go to school in Norfolk. You can enter up to six pieces of writing, and audio entries are also welcome across all entries (except graphic novels).

For word limits and further information, please visit the National Centre for Writing website.

Deadline: 5pm, Monday 25 May 2020