

Creative Writing Across the Curriculum Classwork and Homework Ideas

Music

1. Tape of three different themes
 - a. Write what they feel the music is saying/describing
 - b. Describe how the music makes them feel
2. Write story of song
 - a. Create characters
 - b. Develop a plot
 - c. Describe setting
3. Music for focus while writing
4. Music for studying, reviewing, or quiet desk work

Art

1. Tell the story of the picture
2. Describe the picture in detail
3. Research artist and/or painting
4. Describe how the picture makes them feel

History

1. Make several journal/diary entries typical of a historical character
3. Reporter records and describes major battle scenes, political events, historical occasions
3. Poet writes about major public figure or event
4. Playwright immortalizes historical figure/event a la Shakespeare's history plays
5. Write a letter to your favorite historical figure
6. Write a letter of praise or protest regarding the handling of a major political event.

7. Write about an event from the main character's point of view (use first person)
8. Write about an event from the main character's spouse's point of view (use first person).
9. Write about an event from the enemy's point of view (use first person)

Science

1. Tell the story of an important invention/discovery from the key person's point of view
2. Describe in detail how to do an experiment. Then try it out.
3. Write a poem about nature, an invention, an experiment
4. Write a play/skit about an important discovery
5. Go outside and write a poem or a description of what they see or hear or feel.

Religion

1. Keep a prayer journal
2. Write biography of key religious leader
3. Write favorite Bible story as if they were the main character
4. Write poem about God
5. Write about key religious events
6. Project what the second coming will be like
7. Describe heaven as they hope it will be

Foreign Language

1. Paragraph descriptions (in that language) of their favorite place, of one of their grandparents, a pet
2. Translate a short poem or favorite song into that language
3. Write a short story in that language, or a poem of their own

English

1. All of the above!
2. Read a story part way, stop, have them write how it ends
3. Rewrite a story from a different point of view (specify)
4. Try writing in stream of consciousness
5. Drop a ping pong ball on a table and have them first capture the rhythm and then write a poem using that rhythm. Other things work with this too—pulse, for example.

Business/Economics

1. Provide a budget for a business or a household and have them write a story based on that information
2. Describe the impact certain economic actions might have

Journal Writing

1. General—anything goes
2. Specific Reader's Journals
3. Prayer Journals
4. Activity Journals (exercise, diet, etc.)
5. Listener's Journals
6. Personal Journals
7. Reaction/Response Journals
8. Experimentation Journals (science)
9. Research/Project Journals
10. Timed Reading Journals

GENERAL RULES FOR SHARING AND GRADING

1. Always share and praise.
2. Short of time? Have small groups share first, choose favorite of each group to share with entire class
 - a. Ask for volunteers to read their own work
 - b. collect and read out loud (no names)
3. Make an effort to publish
 - a. In-class publication
 - b. send copy to parents
 - c. submit to school paper, town paper
 - d. encourage contest writing
4. Find something positive to comment about, no matter what.
5. Praise publicly and privately.
6. Allow for private writing in journals
 - a. "Private! Don't read!"
 - b. React and respond personally if requested, or needed
7. Ignore grammar, spelling and punctuation problems unless severe
8. Do it again.
9. Do it again.
10. Do it again.