

Purpose:

This brochure is designed with the intent to help Writing Associates identify and address issues that come up during Creative Writing appointments.

Things to remember:

- *Creative writing, like all writing, requires some element of vulnerability. Be kind and tactful when addressing issues with a student.*
- *Acknowledge that the student is ultimately the final judge. If they like an aspect of their work, don't pressure them to change it.*
- *Creative Writing appointments are just like any other appointments! Students are looking for help and advice, not harsh criticism, or rude comments.*

In this brochure, we will discuss the three major types of creative writing, and what to pay attention to during an appointment.

Have fun and be kind!

Hopefully with the assistance of this pamphlet and your practice as a tutor, you feel as comfortable and confident tutoring Creative Writing as you would any discipline!

Sincerely, Jane Fantozzi '23





Poetry

The most important thing to keep in mind is the author's vision. If they can identify their goal, that helps guide the rest of the appointment.

Here are some of the most important elements of poetry, and some relevant questions to ask:

Rhythm: how does the poem sound out loud? What affects are created by the words?

Tone: How does the author feel toward this topic? Is the language conveying that feeling effectively?

Structure: How is the poem organized? (sonnet, villanelle, haiku, etc.)

Rhyme: Is the sound of the poem consistent? Does it sound pleasant?

Imagery: Is the poem descriptive?

Creative Non-Fiction

Creative non-fiction centers around telling a personal experience in an interesting way. Here are some questions to consider during your creative non-fiction appointment.

What is the speaker remembering? What don't they remember?

Do you believe the narrator? Have they convinced you this really happened? Or do you feel like there's a disconnect between the writer and the reader?

Has the student affectively conveyed the plot/setting/characterization of their story? What's lacking? Does this need to be fixed?

Remember that this is a true story, so be extra considerate of your critique!



Creative Fiction

Fiction should be treated like any other essay! What is the purpose of it? What is the author trying to get you to believe? Does the situation make sense? Is it supposed to?

With creative fiction, it may be best to jump in head-first. Read the story once, and then ask for the author's thoughts. It's important that fiction be clear regardless of the amount of context.

Consider how language could further lend itself to the piece. What is the writer's voice? How does descriptive language immerse the reader in the setting?

