

Session Overview: Creative Writing Online Workshop by Youth on Board

Session One: An Introduction

Summary

Objective: Get an overview of our participants, creative writing as a hobby or job, basics and introduction to the final assignment

Time Allotment: 90 minutes

Implementation

- **0-30 minutes:** An introduction of the participants. A short discussion on countries involved, the meaning of non-formal education, and the rise of digital education.

Participants will be asked to answer these questions directly on the zoom poll. These questions will help us gain a better overview of the participants' experience. The results of these questions will be gathered and shared with the group after they are reviewed.

- **30-60 minutes:** An introduction to creative writing. We will be discussing the topic of creative writing, where and how it can be used. A practical exercise: we will take a look at an idea from a potential client who is asking us to describe an online live-stream event dedicated to non-formal education. The trainer will show the workflow live and the thought process that goes into creating an engaging text. Here we will talk about the **intro, outro, general message, structure and target audience** of the text. We will look at an example published on the YOB website and show the workflow of writing that piece.
- **60-80 minutes: "A Call To Action"** - the sentence that serves as encouragement to the reader.
- **80-90 minutes: Introduction to the final assignment. The full description of the final assignment can be found at the end of the agenda (Page 4).**

Homework from Session One: Each participant is going to have to write a short paragraph about the same topic that was discussed with the trainer. Write a social media post about an online Livestream organized by the fictional organization HelloYouth to promote their event where they talk about non-formal education.

Session Two: The Show don't Tell Method

Summary

Objective: Introduction of the “Show Don't Tell” method - how to write engaging stories to convey a message. This is the artistic part of the workshop, preparing the participants to engage in writing their final blog post assignment.

Time Allotment: 90 minutes

Implementation

- **0-30 minutes:** An introduction of the “Show Don't Tell” method. What is it, how do we use it and what are some examples of good writing?
- **30-50 minutes:** Practical exercise: Using good grammar and vocabulary to write an engaging text. Why is it so important and how to we get the best out of technology? The introduction of a practical list of words. Participants will have about 20 minutes to test their skills and we will review the results in the final session.
- **50-90 minutes: Write in any situation while using your imagination.** Your client is giving you a picture with only this sentence: “I need a short text to go in my social media post. Can you do your word magic?” This is an exercise in which your client has a photo or a concept of an event or activity and you need to describe it to the audience. Here you need to think about the core message of your text - why are you writing it? The target audience - Who needs to read this? The Call To Action - What is your punchline? What am I supposed to do after I'm done

reading? Show Don't Tell - "The energy is like a popped bottle of champagne - overflowing" - get the reader to feel something without actually telling them.

There will be no homework from session two. Work on your blog posts is advised.

Session Three: Final Evaluation & Discussion

Summary

Objective: Providing the participants with the final evaluation of their writing. Establishing further connections during networking and discussion. Providing participants with appropriate links in which they can find their blog posts.

Time Allotment: 90 minutes

Implementation

- **0-30 minutes: WarmUp Exercise: See the Story.** In this exercise, the trainer will show you an image on the screen. Look at the image and construct a short description or story about it. What story do you see? For this assignment, you will have 15 minutes. Remember to show the reader, don't tell them! Next, we will do an evaluation of the final assignments & quiz results. Where do we want to be more careful? What was done in a great way?
- **30-60 minutes:** Bulletproof posts: secure your writing by using grammarly.com. Here you will receive details on where you will find your blog posts and how to access them in order to share them.
- **60-90 minutes:** Networking and closing remarks. Participants are free to engage in a discussion with their trainer, establish further contact, and provide links to their personal blogs if they have one.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT: Description

Welcome to the section that describes the final assignment of this workshop. Since this is a workshop on creative writing, it is only natural for us to expect some form of written text at the end of the workshop. During the workshop, you will be introduced to methods and techniques of writing - how you write in the end is entirely up to you!

The final assignment is introduced in the first session because we want you to have enough time to think about it, absorb the topics, and submit them. You will need to follow these instructions:

- 1. TOPIC: “The person/place/experience that changed my life”.** In a situation of social distancing, we think it is important to look back on experiences in certain places, experiences, and people that had an impact on our lives. Who did you meet? What did you learn? Was there a lesson you would never forget? How did this experience change your life? Keep in mind that a place does not mean a foreign country or a new city. It can be a local pub, library, school or even your bedroom. We want to hear about an event that changed your mindset on some part of your life. Be brave and vulnerable, pay attention to showing us how you felt. Set the scene and show us the magic of that moment. **What is your core message? What is your Call to Action? Remember to engage your reader.**
- 2. DEADLINE:** The final assignments are to be submitted by **THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH AT 23:59**. We will discuss the best channel for submission during the first session.
- 3. WORDCOUNT:** The blog posts should have a maximum of 700 words. Keep in mind that this is not an essay, it is a short creative text designed to be posted online.
- 4. STYLE:** Totally up to you
- 5. FORMAT: Prose**, poems will not be reviewed.

We advise you to use MS Word or Google Docs for writing the assignment.