

THEATRE CENTRE

Online Writing Course

Turning Your Ideas into Stories

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Please use this worksheet with the related video.

Exercise 1: Questions to Yourself

Read and answer the 12 'writerly questions' below.

TOP TIP: Use your gut instinct and remember there is no wrong answer.

My name is _____ and I am a writer.

1. What are you passionate about?
2. What do you want to explore in your writing?
3. What do you want to say TO the world?
4. Why MUST you say it?
5. Who can embody the idea or subject you are passionate about?

6. What location embodies this idea or subject?

7. What are three themes that support your idea?

8. What are three images that support your idea?

9. What is the smallest object / action / emotion that illustrates this idea?

10. What is the biggest object / action / emotion that illustrates this idea?

11. Who is a completely contrasting character to this idea?

12. What is a completely contrasting location to this idea?

Exercise 2: Lyric Inspiration

Take two lines from one of your favourite songs. Write a conversation between two characters using the two lines from your chosen song as the beginning of the dialogue.

A:

B:

A:

B:

A:

B:

A:

B:

A:

B:

A:

B:

A:

Exercise 3: Monologue Journey (structure)

Take one of the characters from the previous activities to use as the basis to create a monologue journey. Complete the questions below to create a clear structure for your monologue.

The monologue needs to include a character who is experiencing 'an arrival'.

TOP TIP: You can write stage directions to show what the character is doing or thinking.

The Beginning

- Where is your character?
- What have they been doing before this monologue takes place?
- How are they feeling about this arrival?

The Middle

- Does your character like or dislike this arrival?
- If they like it, how will they welcome this arrival?
- If they dislike it, how will they 'welcome' or shun this arrival?

Fork in the Road

- Your character is given new information which provides them with a choice / different options that they must take.

- The character realises there are different options they can take. What are those options?

The End

- What action is your character going to take next?

- Show how they commit to this action?

Exercise 4: Write Your Monologue

You have a structured Monologue Journey from Exercise 3. Now use this to write a short monologue (no more than 3 minutes) that can, if you want, be performed for an online audience.

TOP TIP: See if you can film your monologue yourself, or have someone you are living with film it for you. You can also use green screen on Zoom or Skype to record it.