

## Grade 4 English Language Arts

Week of November 30 – December 4

### Lesson 2: Becoming the Author - PreWriting

With all these new tools you have gained in this unit so far, it is now your turn to be an author!

**In this section, you will be putting your creative writing skills to use. Throughout this next section, you will pre-write and write a story from your mind.**

Choosing a topic for creative writing can be tricky. The pictures on the following page may help jump start you into your pre-writing. You will then create your story step by step making sure you include all the elements of a story.

### Creative Writing Prompt

**Now, take some time to think about what your creative writing story will be about. The sky is the limit for ideas! Keep in mind, the story needs to be appropriate for school.**

Use any of the pictures on the next page if you need ideas or prompts for your creative writing adventure!

### Story Writing Tips

Before jumping into planning, here are some story writing tips that will help you get started.



How to Write a Story: <https://youtu.be/OFWcSnRIAmc>



<https://www.pinterest.ca/socalclift/>

## Brainstorm Story Ideas

You should now have an idea what you want your story to be about. You don't need all the details yet, but have a starting point.

**It is time to Brainstorm!**

Brainstorming is a tool writers use to come up with ideas. There are 3 ways of brainstorming that you will explore for your creative writing story.

1. **Free Write**
2. **Making a List**
3. **Mind Mapping**

### Free Writing

A free write is writing with no stopping! It's a good way to get all your ideas out. Don't worry about how it looks – just keep moving the pencil on the paper. One way to get started is to set a timer for five to ten minutes and just start writing ideas. Have your topic in mind and keep your words flowing. Don't worry about spelling or grammar; the goal is to get as many ideas as possible down. If you can't think of what to write, just write anything that comes to mind.



Freewriting: <https://youtu.be/4O0EMX0nnl4>

## More Brainstorming Ideas

More ways to brainstorm...

### Making a List

Write down your topic as the title. Then list as many related ideas underneath it. Write phrases or single words. Your list when brainstorming does not have to be in any kind of order – just list as many things as you can about the topic.

### Mind Mapping

Put your story idea in a circle in the middle of the page. Then create branches off it and write down ideas. From these bigger branches, draw smaller branches with related ideas. You can use different colours and add images (quick sketches) to help you with the process.



Mind Map: <https://youtu.be/Xfx4PIgOrpl>

Choose how you would like to brainstorm. Now record some ideas. Find answers to the following questions as part of your brainstorming stage.

- What ideas do you have for the setting? Character?
- The main type of conflict?

In the space below you are going to brainstorm ideas for your short story. The page has been left blank as you may choose any of the 3 brainstorming tools; a free write, making a list, or making a mind map. Think about characters, setting, theme of story, and parts of the story mountain!