

Salahaddin University-Erbil

College of Basic Education

**Developing Creativity in Studetnt’s Writing Skill**

This project Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Bachelors in English at College of Basic Education, Salahaddin University-Erbil

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**Dedication**

We dedicate this resarch to our families.

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**Section one**

**Introduction**

 Scholars have developed several theories on writing skills, but these can be confusing for preservice and in-service teachers searching for the best methods or philosophy to learn how to teach writing. Our research is entitled “Developing Creativity in Student’s Writing Skill”. It’s truly obvious that writing has a crucial role in communication. We are mentioning the Important of creative writing in writing skills, some techniques, and the Stages of creative writing which are beneficial and suitable for students and helping them.

The aim of creative writing is to use language in a unique and imaginative way to convey an idea, story, or emotion. It involves the creation of original works of fiction, poetry, or creative non-fiction, and encourages writers to explore their own perspectives and experiences, as well as to experiment with different styles and forms of writing

(Larkin, 2009). Creative writing is more than just a passion and it is all about using your imagination and creativity to express ideas and thoughts in a way which is personal to you. It is defined as “A craft for practicing, individual writing awareness, and following effective writing processes all play decisive roles in producing written texts.

(Morley, 2014).Creative writing is the ability to think differently by using experience and making connections between events, situations, and people, creative writing revealing the hidden and creative power in students

This research is divided into four main sections. The first section is an introduction which includes: general background, aim of the research, definition of developing creativity in student’s writing skill. Second section is historical and theatrical background which includes: definition of creative writing, the important of creative writing in writing skill, techniques to develop creativity in writing skill, the stages of creative writing, story, poetry, journal. The third section is experiences and reflection. The research ends up with conclusions and a list of references.

**Section Two**

**Historical and Theoretical Background**

**2.1Definition of Creative Writing:**

Creative writing involves writing that falls outside the usual bounds of professional, journalistic, academic, or technical literature. It emphasizes narrative craft, character development, and literary devices. Fictional and non-fictional works like novels, biographies, short stories, and poems can fall under this category. Creative writing courses in academic settings typically separate fiction and poetry classes and focus on original writing styles. Writing for screen and stage also fits under this category.

Creativity, in general, is defined by Boden (2001, p. 95) as, the skill of coming out with new ideas that are surprising, intelligible, and also valuable in some way.

Chambers Dictionary defines creative as ‘Having the power to create, that creates, showing, pertaining to, imagination, originality’ and writing as ‘The act of one who writes, that which is written, literary production or composition’. Therefore, the term ‘creative writing’ may be defined as: Having the power to create an imaginative, original literary production or composition and can be applied to a very broad spectrum of writing genres. Adel, R. (2007)

Creative writing is the action of writing creatively, informed by the human imagination and the creative and critical understanding of the creative writer, influenced by personal history and by culture, guided by forms and types of individual knowledge that so often do not stay within the disciplinary boundaries of colleges or universities or schools as they have been defined in the late modern period, Graeme,H .(2015)

**2.2 The Importance of Creative Writing.**

Creative writing is beneficial for language learning, as it helps in developing grammar, vocabulary, phonetics, and discourse. It encourages "Language Play," which motivates learners to play with language in their unique style, allowing them to explore, experiment, and manipulate language. It stimulates both the right and left brain to promote balanced thinking and enhances imaginative skills. Creative writing also helps learners to intuitively adopt the creative style used in various texts and apply it in their language usage. Moreover, it can improve expository writing by allowing learners to create expressive pieces freely.

P. Harshini (2020) mentions the following points as importance of creative writing:

1. It helps improve communication skills: Creative writing enables individuals to express their thoughts and ideas in a clear, concise, and engaging way. This skill can be useful in various fields, including business, marketing, and media.
2. It boosts creativity and imagination: Writing creatively involves thinking outside the box and coming up with innovative ideas. This process helps individuals enhance their creativity and imagination, which can benefit them in various areas of life.
3. It can be therapeutic: Writing creatively can be a therapeutic and cathartic experience. It enables individuals to explore their feelings and emotions, process traumatic events, and gain a deeper understanding of themselves.
4. It helps develop critical thinking skills: Writing creatively involves analyzing and interpreting information, which can help individuals develop their critical thinking skills. This skill can be beneficial in various areas of life, including academia, business, and decision-making.
5. It promotes self-expression and self-discovery: Creative writing provides individuals with a platform to express themselves and their unique perspectives. It enables individuals to explore their identity, values, and beliefs and gain a deeper understanding of them. Overall, creative writing is an essential skill that can benefit individuals in various areas of life. It enhances communication skills, boosts creativity and imagination, promotes self-expression and self-discovery, and helps develop critical thinking skills.

**2.3 Techniques to Develop Creativity in Writing Skill**

 According to (bfriedmn, 2015)

 Techniques of creative writing refer to the methods and tools used by writers to create literary works that are imaginative, expressive, and impactful. These techniques involve the use of various literary devices and elements, such as plot, character, setting, point of view, tone, style, and language, to produce a work that is unique and engaging.

Mind Mapping: Mind maps are a visual way to organize your ideas and help you to see how different concepts are related. You can use mind maps to brainstorm ideas for a writing project or to develop characters and plot.

Metaphor and simile: the use of figurative language to create comparisons and associations that deepen meaning and evoke emotion.

**Try free writing** : [This creative writing technique](https://www.masterclass.com/articles/how-to-improve-your-writing-with-freewriting) is the practice of writing without a prescribed structure, which means no outlines, cards, notes, or editorial oversight. In freewriting, the writer follows the impulses of their own mind, allowing thoughts and inspiration to appear to them without premeditation. you can use your freewriting practice to refine your technique and ultimately unleash your creativity.

Be Disciplined: Discipline is a very critical tool in improving the skills of creative writing. Self-discipline is the most important. A writer should stick to their itinerary, finish all their projects, and have a plan. Nothing comes out of lack of self-discipline, especially for a creative artist.

Learn the Trade Editing, correct grammar, storytelling, and proper formatting are crucial skills needed to write a good article or piece. A good idea for a story is never enough. A good writer brings an idea to a storyline and gives the story life by paying attention to these details. Never underestimate the power of details.

**2.4 The Stages of Creative Writing**

There are many distributions of creative writing which introduced to clarify how writer go throw his creative writing starting from thoughts till assessment.

**Step one** Pre, in and post creative writing Creative writing is an evolutionary action as it starts with a pre creative writing stage then creative writing stage and finally the post creative writing stage. All these stages presented as strongly linear, horizontal by nature, one step following another. While not necessarily continuous, the notion is that the parts of the model of the writing process exist as stages in a process and that each of these stages has practices that are largely associated with those stages according to (Yarwasky,2021) in the following sequence.

* pre-writing consists of a deal of preparatory work, and this can include thought processing, bringing together ideas, as well as physical actions that might involve graphic representations or associated note making and mapping out.

It is said to also involve making choices, essentially choices about the topics you will write about, and perhaps researching those topics.

* post- creative writing or post process, in this stage learner evaluates his writing and makes sure that the written text embodies the interaction between self and society, individual and culture, through the creation and embodiments of writing process. Here a writer is said to assess, critique, return to earlier work with a stronger critical eye, clarify, even focus on some professional writing basics such as checking grammar and correcting typographical errors.

(U Writing Center, 2013) state that writing process of creative writing consist of some other stages

### **Step two : Research (if needed)**

* List places where you can find information.
* Do your research. See the many [KU Libraries](https://lib.ku.edu/) resources and [helpful guides](https://guides.lib.ku.edu/tutorials)
* Evaluate your sources. See [Evaluating Sources](https://writing.ku.edu/evaluating-websites) and [Primary vs. Secondary Sources](https://writing.ku.edu/primary-vs-secondary-sources)
* Make an outline to help organize your research. See [Outlines](https://writing.ku.edu/outlines)

### **Step 3: Drafting**

* Write sentences and paragraphs even if they are not perfect.
* Create a thesis statement with your main idea. See [Thesis Statements](https://writing.ku.edu/thesis-statements)
* Put the information you researched into your essay accurately without plagiarizing. Remember to include both in-text citations and a bibliographic page. See [Incorporating References](https://writing.ku.edu/incorporating-references) and [Paraphrase and Summary](https://writing.ku.edu/paraphrase-and-summary)
* Read what you have written and judge if it says what you mean. Write some more.
* Read it again.
* Write some more.
* Read it again.
* Write until you have said everything you want to say about the topic.

### **Step 4: Revising**

* Read what you have written again. See [Revising Content](https://writing.ku.edu/revising-content) and [Revising Organization](https://writing.ku.edu/revising-organization)
* Rearrange words, sentences, or paragraphs into a clear and logical order.
* Take out or add parts.
* Do more research if you think you should.
* Replace overused or unclear words.
* Read your writing aloud to be sure it flows smoothly. Add transitions.

### **Step five Editing and Proofreading**

* Be sure all senences are complete. See [Editing and Proofreading](https://writing.ku.edu/editing-and-proofreading)
* Correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
* Change words that are not used correctly or are unclear.
* Make sure you are using the appropriate style formatting.

### **Step six publishing**

According University of Rhode Island (n.d.) there is one more step of creative writing process which is publishing

After writing has been fine-tuned and edited, and now it's time for it to be published. Publishing may take the form of submitting an assignment to a professor or a professional journal. Having your hard work recognized is one of the benefits of publishing. Knowing that you have successfully navigated the writing process, you can publish with pride.

**2.4.1 Short Story**

According to Donovan, M. (2021, April 6).

A short story is a work of [fiction](https://getmitto.com/the-best-science-fiction-books-of-all-time/) that typically can be read in one sitting, typically by individuals. The term “short story” is sometimes used interchangeably with “novella” or “novelette.” Still, novella and novelette are more often the titles given to a longer work of fiction that can’t be read in one sitting. The form of the short story has been around for centuries. Still, it came into its own as an independent literary genre in the early twentieth century with Ernest Hemingway and Katherine Mansfield. There are many genres where you can find short stories – mystery, romance, horror, science-fiction.

**2.4.2 poetry**

According to (www.strikingly.com, 2021)

Poetry is one of the most diverse forms of creative writing, ranging from haikus and sonnets to sestinas, elegies, and villanelles. Many poets work within structured traditions that make specific demands in rhyme, rhythm, and subject matter, but they also have the freedom to experiment with less rigid forms like prose poetry or free verse. If you weren't aware, poetry is the most likely form to defy punctuation rules or be formatted in unusual ways, such as blackout poetry. The most important thing to remember about poetry is no rules.

Here are a few examples:

*Ozymandias” by Percy Bysshe Shelley*

*Nothing beside remains. Round the decay*

*Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare*

*The lone and level sands stretch far away.*

**2.4.3 journal**

According to essayrx.com (2020)

Journals are written logs. Creating, for instance, a gratitude or memory journal is not hard. You can even write goals journals. Journals are important forms of writing used by writers for their daily activities. They are also used to brainstorming and project planning for companies. Writing journals may seem easy, but it requires creative skills are well as knowledge of the writing realm. Creating a journal may take you more energy than you would have imagined. It takes learning and doing.

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