

TOPICS AND CREATIVE PIECES

This table shows lesson topics and creative pieces the students write; it breaks the lessons down to show you natural breaking points in the course. If you don't plan to cover 3 video lessons per week or if you have to plan around trips or holidays, these natural breaking points should help you choose good places to pause.

Unit	Lesson	Title	Grouping	Journal Section	Journal Entry
1	1	Tell Me a Story	Thinking about magazines	None	None
	2	The Remarkable Journal	Introducing the journal	Questions: 5 unrelated questions about life, the world, or anything else	Read "Arrival" and "Questions" and write 5 questions of your own on 5 days.
	3	Themestorm	Brainstorming and picking a theme		
	4	Sentencing	Movie vs. concept sentences		
	5	Personally Placed Things	Using specific nouns		Read entries and write 5 questions on 5 days.
	6	Painted Personally Placed Things	Picking precise adjectives		
	7	Explosive Words	Choosing active verbs		Read entries and write 5 questions on 5 days.
	8	Wildly Explosive Words	Hunting adverbs		
	9	Fightin' Words	Creating emotion through images		

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	10	Super Guaco Taco	3 lessons for writing a review		Read entries and write 5 questions on 5 days.		
	11	Groupies					
	12	Opinionating					
2	13	The Poetry of Poetry	Writing a poem inspired by a news story	Details: Interesting details about things you encounter.	Read "Details" and then jot down 5 details on 5 days.		
	14	Acrostics	Writing an acrostic				
	15	Cinquains	Writing a cinquain				
	16	Haiku	2 lessons for writing haikus			Read entries and then jot down 5 details on 5 days.	
	17	Haiku Too					
	18	The Limerick	Writing a limerick				
	19	The Five Ws	6 lessons for writing an article				Read entries and then jot down 5 details on 5 days.
	20	Everyman					
	21	Spiraling					
	22	Astounding Strategies					
	23	Astounding Outlines					
	24	Astounding Paragraphs					Read entries and then jot down 5 details on 5 days.
3	25	Dear Mr. President	3 lessons for writing letters	Curious Paragraphs: One 5-sentence paragraph		Read "Curious Paragraphs" and write a 5-sentence paragraph of your own on 5 days.	
	26	Dear Editor					
	27	Dear Reader					

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	28	Short Change	9 lessons for writing a short story		Read entries and write a 5-sentence paragraph on 5 days.
	29	Short Heroes			
	30	Short Outlines			
	31	Showing Character			Read entries and write a 5-sentence paragraph on 5 days.
	32	Showing Problems			
	33	Showing Change			
	34	Ramping Up			Read entries and write a 5-sentence paragraph on 5 days.
	35	Circularity			
	36	The Moral of the Story			
4	37	The First Two Layers	Beyond symbols and words to meaning	Dialogue: Five "bounces" of real-life dialogue you overhear (explained in chapter 37)	Read "Dialogue" and write 5 bounces of your own on 5 days.
	38	The Third Layer	Providing context		
	39	The Fourth Layer	Creating relevance		
	40	Write What You Know	Writing what you know		Read entries and write 5 bounces on 5 days.
	41	The Truth about Truth	Writing honestly		
	42	Blog O'Sphere	Writing a blog post		
	43	Exaggeration	Enjoying hyperbole		Read entries and write 5 bounces on 5 days.
	44	Repetition	2 lessons for writing a humor piece		
	45	Timing			
	46	Steampunk Gun	2 lessons for writing how-to articles		Read entries and write 5 bounces on 5 days.
	47	Cinnamon Popcorn			

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	48	Going Places	Writing a “how-everything-went-wrong” article					
5	49	Hard Questions	3 lessons for writing an advice column (letter and response)	The People: One 5-sentence paragraph describing a person	Read “The People” and write 5 descriptions of people on 5 days.			
	50	Inside Your Head						
	51	Slice ‘n’ Dice						
	52	Story Patterns	9 lessons for writing a short story			Read entries and write 5 descriptions of people on 5 days.		
	53	Conflict						
	54	Human Heroes						
	55	Dropping Eaves					Read entries and write 5 descriptions of people on 5 days.	
	56	Dueling Words						
	57	Great Openings						
	58	What’s a Meta For?						
	59	Zap Pow						
	60	Parting Words						
6	61	Senryu	Writing a senryu	The Self: A one-paragraph mini-story about yourself, real or imagined.	Read “The Self” and write a mini-story about yourself on 5 days.			
	62	Found Me a Poem	Writing a found poem					
	63	The Chains of Free Verse	Writing a free verse poem					
	64	What’s a Ballad?	3 lessons for writing a ballad			Read entries and write a mini-story about yourself on 5 days.		
	65	Ghosts ‘n’ Heroes						
	66	Story Poems						

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	67	Headlines	3 lessons for writing ad copy		Read entries and write a mini-story about yourself on 5 days.
	68	Benefits			
	69	The Call to Action			
	70	Revising for Theme	3 lessons for finalizing the magazine content		Read entries and write a mini-story about yourself on 5 days.
	71	Putting it Together			
	72	Publishing			
Grammar Lessons - optional; can be done at any point after lesson 8, but in sequential order.				None	
	1	Kinds of Sentences	All of these lessons stand on their own.	There is no journal work.	
	2	Subjects and Predicates			
	3	Run ons and Fragments			
	4	Parts of Speech			
	5	That Was Tense			
	6	Subject/Verb Agreements			
	7	Subject Pronouns			
	8	Prepositions			
	9	Conjunctions			
	10	Comma Chameleon			
	11	Apostrophes			
	12	Quotation Marks			