



My Creative Writing Workbook

10 Practice Tests with Worksheets

This book belongs to:

Your Name Here

My Creative Writing Workbook 4™

10 Practice Tests with Worksheets

for UIL and PSIA contests

Written by
Jennifer King & Shannon Ament

Edited by
Keisha Bedwell

Irene Bouchard is a retired social worker and author of the children's books *Imagine That* and *The Secret of Tree Hugger Bubble Gum*. More importantly, she says, is her role as a mother of six children, and a grandmother of four. "The grandkids give me inspiration and help me stay energized and passionate about life," she says. Her grandchildren gave her the name of 'Granma Song' because grandma Bouchard is known for having plenty of music and dancing in her home. Bouchard has provided two creative writing story samples which can be found at the end of this workbook.

This book mimics the style and format of the **Texas Interscholastic League (UIL)** and **Private Schools Interscholastic Association (PSIA)** Creative Writing contests. Note that, while both contests present five pictured and labeled items, each contest may vary slightly, and, like most contests, the format and judging criteria can change over time. We recommend that you read all material provided by your respective contest's website to help your student better understand what is expected of them in this contest. If you are a parent, we encourage you to take the time to communicate with your participating child's coach or teacher for general contest tips or help identifying your child's strengths and weakness in writing. Overall, you will find this contest to be encouraging and supportive of aspiring young writers, and many go on to compete in Ready Writing, Editorial Writing, Spelling, and more!

We are a small company that listens! If you have any questions or if there is an area that you would like fully explored, let us hear from you. We hope you enjoy this product and stay in contact with us throughout your academic journey.

— President Hexco Inc., Linda Tarrant

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www.hexco.com

P.O. Box 199 • Hunt, Texas 78024

Phone: 800.391.2891 • Fax: 830.367.3824

Email: hexco@hexco.com

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My goals - Page 1

Practice Test 1

Finish by: _____
(day or date)

Practice Test 2

Finish by: _____
(day or date)

Practice Test 3

Finish by: _____
(day or date)

Practice Test 4

Finish by: _____
(day or date)

Practice Test 5

Finish by: _____
(day or date)

What's your problem?

Does a story that has a happy beginning, middle, and end sound interesting to you? What if the character never has a bad day or gets into a mess? While this might sound nice, it would probably get a little boring. From a writer's standpoint, don't be afraid to cause some trouble!

A good story needs a problem, or **conflict**. It will make it much more fascinating. Before you write, think about what you want to happen to your character at the end. Then think of all the things that he or she will have to go through to get there. This is when you get to be creative, so don't hesitate to make it wacky, scary, frustrating, or messy!

Don't be afraid of messes.

Example: After picking from the images, think of a character.
What do you want him to do?



Don't be afraid of messes.

Example: This is what we came up with. How about you?



Character's Name:

Carmine the candy chemist

What's going on?

Beginning:

Carmine wants to make candy.

End:

He accidentally makes bubbly taffy!

List the things that will happen to your character.

1. Carmine is making a new kind of candy.
2. A bee flies in.
3. He jumps and adds too much fizz.
4. It explodes and rains sticky goo that is chewy and bubbly.
5. He invents the world's first bubbly taffy!

Problem exercise 1.

Now it's your turn. Let's say you thought of this character. What is happening? Be creative!



Character's Name:

What's going on?

Beginning:

End:

List the things that will happen to your character.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

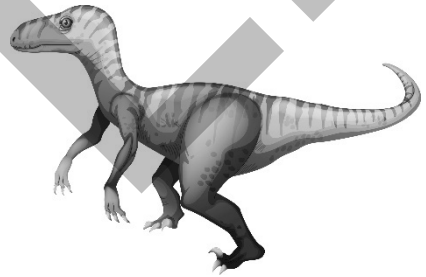
Practice Test 4

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

Write a story on your own paper. You must write about at least one of the things shown on this page. You may use as many of the things shown as you wish.



slime



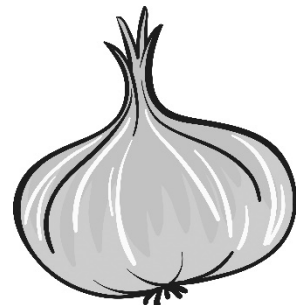
dinosaur



dentist



rope



onion

Student Name: _____

School Name: _____

Contestant Number (if you have one): _____

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHEET

Practice Test 4

Contestant Number (if you have one): _____

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHEET

Practice Test 4

SAMPLE

SAMPLE