




The Revenant

- Annotations = 2-3 per chapter (include page numbers!) — more for EC
- Historical Value
 - True story!
 - Exploration of the West post L&C
 - Native American Studies
- Literary Value
 - True story! (Fictionalized)
 - What can this book teach us about bringing a story and its characters to life?









Why Creative Writing?

Engaged by Cool story, Go walking with

If your life was only remembered by what *you* wrote,
how would you tell that story?

The complex block contains the title "Why Creative Writing?" at the top. Below it are three small square images: a woman in a white top and dark jacket, a man with a beard and a hat, and a man in a white shirt. Under each image is a short phrase: "Engaged by", "Cool story,", and "Go walking with". At the bottom of the block is a question: "If your life was only remembered by what you wrote, how would you tell that story?"

Imagination Pagination

- Your first (or 10th) idea will probably suck — do it anyway! It's all about *practice*!
- Commit to the Process
- Writer's Block?... It's just ice
- All Stories are — Borrow some inspiration



Creative Writing: Basics

- "There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed." (Ernest Hemingway)
- "Winter is Coming"
- "Let the Magic Begin"
- "Winning Will Make You Famous; Losing Means Certain Death"
- First Person vs. Third Person
- Omniscient vs. Limited
- Stream of Consciousness
- Characters
 - (Winston Smith)
 - (O'Brien)
 - — Characters who better help us understand the main character (Julia, Syme, Parsons)
- Jerome Stern: "You can't avoid meaning, even if you want to."
- Conflict, Crisis, Resolution

TO WRITE
means more than putting
PRETTY WORDS
on a page;
THE ACT OF WRITING
is to share
A PART OF YOUR SOUL
with the World.

An illustration of a black inkwell and a quill pen. The quill is positioned as if it has just finished writing the word "World" in a large, elegant cursive font.

SCENE 2 CLASSROOM - INT. DAY

HARMONY GRANGER sits down next to TYLER (Conspiracy Theorist) who is busying himself on an iPad.

HARMONY GRANGER
Tyler, I need to talk to you about something.

TYLER
(distractedly)
Well it better be in a whisper, because you never know who's listening.

HARMONY GRANGER
(confused)
What are you doing?

TYLER
(still fixated on the iPad, speaking rapidly)
Reading up on the government documents that have just been declassified about the Kennedy Assassination and their attempt to hide the truth from the American Citizen, and did you know --

HARMONY GRANGER
(interrupting, ready to move on to the topic at hand)
Never mind. Since you are a third year senior, I thought you might have some input on a mystery that I'm trying to solve.

TYLER
(suddenly interested)
Shoot.

Creative Writing: Example

- "Did I stutter?" (Mr. Fairbanks)
- What is the plot?
- What is the conflict?
- What is the moment of crisis?
- What is the resolution?
- What is the point of view?
- Characters:
 - Choose a character arc and describe that character's journey through the plot
 - Are there foil characters to the character you chose, and if so, how do they serve as a foil?
- What were the themes of this example?

Creative Descriptions

- Write a scene description of something that uses vivid imagery. The scene should not be more than 30 seconds to a minute of time, but takes the reader through every facet of the scene.
- Stuck? Write a scene description of the picture you see here: What happens next?