

Suggestions for creative writing

- A short story or essay/composition is not a novel, so don't treat it as such.
- We do not need to read about what you had for breakfast that day as in the typical "the alarm went and it was the start of the school holidays" etc. This is too much detail and not essential to your piece of writing.
- Stick to 'time zones' – don't dart all over the place.
- A rushed ending wrecks a good essay so limit the locations - for example, start inside and finish outside etc.
- Symbols or objects such as a door or staircase are useful to insert in a story. Perhaps you can open or end with something.
- Focus less on incident and excitement than on atmosphere and structure.
- Try to develop characters and don't assume that 'you' are always the star of the essay. Imagine you are a different person if writing from the first person's point of view. A character does not have to be James Bond to be interesting.

