

# Write Here! Write Now! / Cary Nadzak

## Ideas from presentation!

Great **website** for writing prompts/research: ODDEE.COM

Use **videoclips** to jumpstart writing! Youtube, Wingclips, Think or Thwim, Teachertube – show a short 1 or 2 minute video and then have kids write on topic

Use **music** to get kids in mood to write! Type up a list of prompts that go with the song and put on the overhead or Smartboard – play the song once while kids just listen – then play the song while they write.

### Analyze songs . . .

- Choose a theme
- Ask kids to find a song that represents that theme
- Pick out words, phrases, lyrics in the song and double journal why they represent the theme
- Bring in chosen songs & have a song jam

### Extension Activities for Themes

- Write your own song lyrics
- Find a poem with the same theme
- Write about how the theme fits into your life
- Write about a TV episode fitting the theme
- Create a short film revolving around the theme
- Interview people about how the theme has affected their lives – write a news article

**Paint to music** – then have kids write parts-of-speech poem – then a paragraph from their poem.

Use entire **movies** to jumpstart writing! My law ed class watched *Million Dollar Baby* – discussed euthanasia laws – then kids decided whether or not they would ask someone to die or if they would help someone die – we wrote the essays in class AFTER I modeled the process.

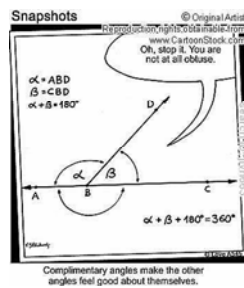
Hot star of *Angles Gone Wild* seen

ADJACENT to

Model! Model! Model!

Would you want to be murdered?  
Euthanasia is a controversial topic.  
Is it death w/dignity or murder?  
Extreme pain + suffering may  
cause the wish to die.  
I would want to die if I were braindead,  
but not if I were a paraplegic or terminally ill.

decision affects laws



Oh, stop it. You are not at all obtuse.

Angelina Angle is packin' on the degrees. Once a curvy ACUTE angle of less than 90 degrees she is now a hefty 140 degrees and growing! Friends try to be COMPLEMENTARY but secretly comment on her OBTUSENESS!

Create **tabloid stories** for historical characters, novel characters, math or science terms.

Use **Easter eggs!** As kids come into room hand them a plastic Easter egg with review question(s) or journal starter in it. OR put sports action photos in eggs & have kids write play by play account OR put fashion pictures & have kids write runway descriptions!

Tape up **landscapes** in hall – have kids do gallery walk then choose one landscape – write about what happened there OR the feelings the photo evokes OR why they like it best.

Write a **eulogy** for a disease studied in a science class, math term, or historical figure/

*Here lies SLOPE, a.k.a. "m"*

*Loved by x and y*

*Already missed by Y-intercept,*

*a.k.a. "b"*

*May he rise and run with the angels*

*in that big graph in the sky!*

Show **video clips of superheroes** – then compare heroes, create original action heroes, research real-life heroes, write letters to soldiers, write thank you notes to heroes

Show **controversial** photos, bumper stickers, license plates – have kids react in writing.

Use **quotes** to spur writing.

Create **poems & raps.**

There once was a hypotenuse

Who put his sides to use

Squared them did he

Yes both a & b

Angles not right he refused!

### Bio-poem

\_\_\_\_\_ (name)  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (adjectives)  
lover of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
who feels \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
who needs \_\_\_\_\_  
who gives \_\_\_\_\_  
who fears \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
who would like to see \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
resident of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

### Write Around

- After group reads a selection each student writes one concept at the top of an index card
- At signal students pass card to student next to them who writes response
- Continue until students receive original card
- Great for analyzing characters or actions in novels or for synonyms for concepts



## Other ideas!

- Write a proposal to a movie producer to make a movie of the week
- Write a theme song for the book after class has read an entire adolescent novel during read-alouds
- Take digital pictures of students and teachers laughing in your school – print and give each group of students one – have group write an original clean joke or anecdote about which the person could have been laughing
- Write a want ad for a linear equation
- Find or take pictures of people doing weird or seemingly secret things – have students write tabloid type articles about the pictures
- Create a class website
- Turn one of your classroom walls into a graffiti wall – allow students to write about their lives, concerns, issues - graffiti should not be critical of others