

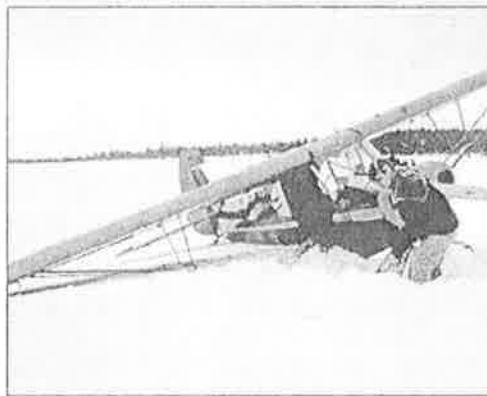
# DAY ONE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Using Inference in Writing

**W**riters use inference in their text to make their writing more interesting. It's not necessary to tell the reader every detail. Instead, let them draw their own conclusions about what is happening.

Look at the picture on the right. A man is using a snowshoe to dig the airplane out of the snow. Write a short story describing what is happening in the picture. You may use any point of view you like. However, you cannot use the words snow, airplane, or plane. You want readers to draw their own conclusion on what is happening without you telling them explicitly.




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## DAY THREE

Read the article & answer the questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



### Charles Dickens Visits America

In 1842 Charles Dickens was probably the most famous English language author in the world. He was received around the world as a major celebrity, often mobbed by fans. It was in that year that Dickens visited the United States. He wrote and published his thoughts about his visit in a book *American Notes for General Circulation*. Below is a passage about his visit to Washington, D.C.

#### Chapter VIII

##### Washington. The Legislature. And The President's House

The President's mansion is more like an English club-house, both within and without, than any other kind of establishment with which I can compare it. The ornamental ground about it has been laid out in garden walks, they are pretty, and agreeable to the eye; though they have that uncomfortable air of having been made yesterday, which is far from favourable to the display of such beauties.

My first visit to this house was on the morning after my arrival, when I was carried thither by an official gentleman, who was so kind as to charge himself with my presentation to the President.

We entered a large hall, and having twice or thrice rung a bell which nobody answered, walked without further ceremony through the rooms on the ground floor, as diverse other gentlemen (mostly with their hats on, and their hands in their pockets) were doing very leisurely. Some of these had ladies with them, to whom they were showing the premises; others were lounging on the chairs and sofas; others, in a perfect state of exhaustion from listlessness, were yawning drearily. The greater portion of this assemblage were rather asserting their supremacy than doing anything else, as they had no particular business there, that anybody knew of. A few were closely eyeing the movables, as if to make quite sure that the President (who was far from popular) had not made away with any of the furniture, or sold the fixtures for his private benefit.

After glancing at these loungers; who were scattered over a pretty drawing-room, opening upon a terrace which commanded a beautiful prospect of the river and the adjacent country; and who were sauntering, too, about a larger state-room called the Eastern Drawing-room; we went up-stairs into another chamber, where were certain visitors, waiting for audiences.



1. Dickens talks about the gardens having the "uncomfortable air of having been made yesterday." Explain how the garden might be a metaphor for the United States.

2. Write a short paragraph comparing the White House that Dickens describes and the White House of today. What is something that happened then that would not happen now. Why?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## WORKSHEET

# Avoiding Comma Splices

Identify whether the following sentences, written in nonfiction prose, include a comma splice. When a sentence does include a comma splice, suggest alternatives to the use of the comma or explain why the splice is acceptable.

1. **I'm allergic to nuts but not peanuts, they are a legume.**

Is the comma correct?    YES    NO

If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, rewrite the sentence to fix the problem:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. **The umbrella is broken, throw it away.**

Is the comma correct?    YES    NO

If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, rewrite the sentence to fix the problem:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. **There are hundreds of people waiting in line for tickets, not all of them will prevail.**

Is the comma correct?    YES    NO

If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

If no, rewrite the sentence to fix the problem:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## DAY FIVE

# READ the news article + answer the questions.

### ***3-D Printed Implant Gives Patches the Dachshund a New Skull***

**By Christine Hauser, from *The New York Times***

Sept. 25, 2018

Last year, Patches the dachshund earned the nickname Little Unicorn after she developed a large tumor that jutted out of her forehead.

Now, with the tumor gone, her Pennsylvania family calls her Titanium Top.

Those terms of endearment for the 9-year-old dog trace the narrative of how Patches became a case study in 3-D medical printing, a developing frontier in the field of reconstruction surgery in animals.

In March, American and Canadian veterinarians removed a tumor from Patches's head that was so large they had to carve out as much as 70 percent of her skull.

So they made Patches a new "skull" to cover the gap. The team members used 3-D printing to tailor a titanium plate to match what was left of the bone. Then they implanted the custom-made plate in Patches's head like a puzzle piece.

"The plate fit," said Dr. Michelle Oblak, a veterinary surgical oncologist with the University of Guelph's Ontario Veterinary College, who worked on Patches during the operation at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ithaca, N.Y. "It was quite jagged, so we had to follow the contour of the tumor."

Although the technology has existed since the 1980s, 3-D printers have been used in clinical applications only in recent years, mostly in veterinary teaching hospitals, according to a 2014 article in *The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*.

The technology is used to make 3-D models from two-dimensional CT scans before operations on animals like horses and dogs, enabling surgeons to plot their approach before the first incision is even made.

"We use it for surgical planning," said Dr. Frank Verstraete, a surgeon at the University of California, Davis, whose team has done dozens of lower-jaw reconstructions. "It saves us time in the actual operating room."

3-D printing has also been used to make implants that replace damaged mandibles and leg bones, such as one placed in a young German shepherd with a limb deformity at Cornell in 2009.

4. Why is 3-D medical printing not used regularly in small veterinary clinics?

5. Why did veterinarians decide to use this technology for Patches?

6. Why do veterinarians say printing 3-D custom plates, like the one made for Patches, will always be a “small niche application”?

**Finally, tell us more about what you think:**

Do you have pets? Have they ever needed surgery? Do you think this technology might have helped them? Why or why not?

In what other ways could you imagine 3-D medical printing being helpful for animals or humans?

# DAY ONE + DAY TWO

CREATIVE  
WRITING  
SNOW  
PACKET

70

## THE ENEMY'S LIFE

*from Lore Segal*

Your first job as writer of a story is to make up the people to whom your story will happen. Not one character, but several, many, all of whom live inside their own bodies, look out of their own eyes at a different world.

### THE EXERCISE

#### \* DAY ONE \*

Write a scene that brings to fictional life someone you hate. Make the reader hate her. It might be someone who annoys you—someone whose manner you can't stand, whose voice grates on you. Or it might be someone who has offended you or done you some harm, or someone to whom you have done some harm—there are many reasons to hate people. If you have the courage, take on someone who is evil on the grand scale. It can be someone you know, someone you know about, or, best of all, invent a real nasty.

#### \* DAY TWO \*

Write the same scene, from the point of view of the nasty, and write it in the first person.

### THE OBJECTIVE

Story and only story is the peaceable kingdom where you and I and the next fellow can lie down on the same page with one another, not by wiping our differences out, but by creating our differences on the page. Only on the page of a story can I look out of your and my and the other fellow's eyes all at the same time.

### STUDENT EXAMPLE

*Week One*

"Doctor" Andrews, as he styled himself, was one of those white men who can be taken seriously no place in the world except an obscure bush

THE ENEMY'S LIFE

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worked out. It wouldn't take much to get him transferred—or better yet, deported.

I still wonder why we didn't go ahead and get rid of him.

CAMERON MACAULEY

A good title should be like a good metaphor: It should intrigue without being too baffling or too obvious.

WALKER PERCY

TAKING RISKS

Joe Shortsleeve, WBZ-TV's intrepid reporter, is asking my wife if I was involved in any illegal activities.

"No," she says gloomily. Her eyes are puffy. "He's the most normal person in the world."

"You can have him back," Maura shouts at the television. She's furious that I'm getting all this attention. The camera is following a helicopter as it circles above some wooded area. I can't figure out why they're searching for me there. I hate forests. The camera cuts to a German shepard dragging a fat cop around a cemetery. The dog stops and wags its tail. The cop waves something in front of its nose.

"That's my *sock*," I say. Maura doesn't care. She's lying next to me like a big white corpse. Naked. I wish she'd cover herself after sex. I already feel like I know her too well.

Tomorrow I'll go home and become the biggest joke in Massachusetts. They'll probably arrest me for conspiring to remain invisible or something.

I tell Maura I'm going to take a walk, and I put on my Celtics cap. It's one of the items I was wearing when my wife last saw me. I might as well be conspicuous, now that things have been decided.

My first stop is the Store 24, where I buy the Boston Herald and a scratch ticket. I let the little Pakistani guy behind the counter get a real good look at me. He points to something on the front page and smiles. That's it, I say to myself, it's all over.

"Beel Clin-Ton," he says and shakes his head in mock disgust.

I wind up at Mister Donut. There's a cute girl there who works the late shift. It's starting to snow and we're talking about skiing. She tells me she gets homesick every time it snows because she grew up in Vermont. I sip my coffee but save my jelly stick for later. I don't like eating donuts in front of good-looking women because crumbs get stuck in my moustache. I watch her as she mops between the tables. I can't be sure if she likes me or she's just a nice person, but I have the secret that might tip the scales. I want to confess.

"I'm a missing person," I say as she squeezes the water into a grimy yellow bucket on wheels.

"Listen," she says. "I know the feeling."

MATT MARINOVICH



prises, parodies all come from verbal skill and shrewdness. Good narrative, fresh language, succinct expression, hitting the point—these are the heart of written humor. Or, as Shakespeare said it better, “Brevity is the soul of wit.”

### THE EXERCISE

Write about something that happened to you that didn't seem funny at the time, for example, the day you were stuck in a traffic jam and a bee flew in through the car window or the time your tenant set your stove on fire and the firemen wrenched it from the wall and tossed it into the backyard. Bring the incident under the humor spotlight and transform it so as to emphasize things that will make your reader smile or laugh. Pacing is important, as are crucial surprising details, and your own confidence that the story does not need analysis or authorial nudging. Limit: 550 words.

### THE OBJECTIVE

Because humor resides largely in the attitude you assume toward your material, you must be able to discover and exploit those elements that highlight the comic, the exaggerated, and the unlikely. Keep in mind that you could just as easily take the bee story and make it tragic (bee bites driver, driver crashes into another car, killing infant in back seat).

### STUDENT EXAMPLE

In the 1970s, boys wore their hair long, over their ears and down the backs of their necks. I was thirteen and my mom and dad used to make me babysit my two younger brothers, Jimmy and Peter. Mom paid me fifty cents an hour. To keep the kids from killing each other, I parked them in front of the TV set until it was time for Peter—who was six that year—to go off to bed. Jimmy was eleven and he hit his little brother every time I turned my back or went to pee or anything.

This one night I got an inspiration. “Who wants to make cookies?” I said.

“I do, I do,” Peter said.

Jimmy said, “That’s girl stuff.”

I told him to suit himself and Peter and I went out to the kitchen to round up the ingredients. Peter asked if we could make chocolate chip cookies and I said sure we could. I got out the stuff we needed and plugged in the Mixmaster Dad got Mom for Christmas. Pete dragged a chair over to the counter and stood on it so he could see what was going on.

Pretty soon Jimmy joined us and even asked if he could help. Pete said no but I said yes and since I was the boss what I said went. We measured out the flour, and poured in all the chips in the bag, and then the other things and dumped the dough into the electric mixing bowl. “Okay,” I told Peter. “Ignition.”

## Day Five

### Did You Hear That?

By: [Jess Zafarris](#) | October 9, 2018



As you likely know, the term **onomatopoeia** refers to words that imitate sounds associated with actions and objects. Incorporate as many onomatopoeic words into a story or scene as you can.

Here is a long list to get you started, but use your own if you prefer.

hiss, ping, crunch, pop, sizzle, bang, swish, smash, flutter, clunk, peck, whistle, smack, whack, hush, whirl, tip-toe, whoosh, thud, zap, twang, cock-a-doodle-doo, squish, stomp, tap, thump, splash, purr, tinkle, gush, kerplunk, slurp, swirl, crash, whirl, clang, mumble, squeak, boom, meow, plop, cuckoo, pow, splat, quack, screech, zoom, tick-tock, burp, clip-clop, eek, hiccup, moo, oink, buzz

... and splonk, of course.

*Goal: 500 words*