

DOTORI WRITING (4-5) B - NARRATIVE WRITING

MON 7:30-8:30 PM

Spring 2026



GOALS

- Explore different forms of narrative writing, including personal narrative, fiction, and retelling.
- Develop storytelling skills such as vivid description, dialogue, character development, and story structure.

3/30

WEEK 1

What Makes a Good Story?

Explore the key elements of narrative writing: characters, setting, problem, and solution. Compare strong and weak story openings using mentor texts. Create a Story Elements Map and discuss what makes readers want to keep reading.

4/6

WEEK 2

Personal Narrative: A Small Moment

Choose a meaningful personal experience and write a short personal narrative. Focus on sequencing events in order and expressing emotions. Introduce the “show, don’t tell” technique to bring moments to life with vivid details.

4/20

WEEK 3

Descriptive Writing: Setting the Scene

Use sensory details (five senses) to create vivid, immersive settings. Practice writing a single scene “like a movie.” Build on the show, don’t tell technique from Week 2 with deeper descriptive language.

4/27

WEEK 4

Fiction: Create a Character

Design an original character with distinct traits and motivations. Write a short fiction piece in which the character faces and solves a problem. Practice writing realistic dialogue that reveals personality.

5/4

WEEK 5

Retelling: A Story I Know

Retell a familiar story — a folktale, fairy tale, or family story — in their own voice and style. Explore point of view by comparing first-person and third-person narration. Experiment with adding a twist or a new ending.

5/11

WEEK 6

Dialogue & Voice

Learn the rules of writing dialogue: punctuation, dialogue tags, and paragraph breaks. Practice giving each character a distinct voice. Write a short scene driven entirely by conversation between two characters.

5/18

WEEK 7

Fantasy & Imaginative Writing

Start with a “What if...?” question to spark creative thinking. Write a short imaginative story by adding one fantastical element to an ordinary setting. Focus on building suspense and keeping readers engaged.

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5/25

WEEK 8

Revision Workshop: Making It Better

Select a favorite piece from the semester and revise it. Upgrade word choices, cut unnecessary parts, and craft a stronger opening and ending. Participate in peer feedback using structured response frames.

6/1

WEEK 9

Editing Workshop: Fix Any Errors

Edit the revised piece for grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Use a self-editing checklist to catch common errors. Prepare the final polished version for presentation.

6/8

WEEK 10

Presentation & Reflection

Present final pieces to the class in an Author's Chair format. Reflect on personal growth as a writer throughout the semester. Structured feedback session using sentence frames and peer checklists.

**** This plan may be adjusted at any time based on students' progress and pacing.**