

**TEN MINUTE  
ACTIVITIES  
TO EXPLORE  
WRITING**

**About this resource**

This is a selection of activities to encourage writing. Low threat, quick, engaging tasks with the emphasis on getting pen to paper. They could be used as lesson starters or to generate some ideas for a longer piece of writing.

<p><b>Excuses</b></p> <p>Make a list of excuses – the more exaggerated the better.</p>	<p><b>Disasters</b></p> <p>Children are fascinated by disasters. But what might be a disaster for a superhero or an ant?</p>	<p><b>Stretchy sentences</b></p> <p>Start off with a clause, for example, 'The bat', how can this be stretched to add more detail.</p> <p>Relate the clause to a topic being studied or class book.</p>
<p><b>Noun and verb sentence game</b></p> <p>Ask for a list of nouns (engine, ruler, pencil, tree).</p> <p>Then make a list of verbs (sipped, stole, rushed, wished).</p> <p>The game is to invent sentences that include a noun and a verb from the lists.</p>	<p><b>Random words</b></p> <p>Choose a book.</p> <p>Use a random number generator to find a page.</p> <p>Repeat the generator to give you a line.</p> <p>Then generate for a small number to select a word.</p> <p>You then have 15 seconds to write a sentence using the selected word.</p>	<p><b>Connections</b></p> <p>Provide two short, simple sentences.</p> <p>The aim of the game is for the children to join them to make one sentence.</p> <p>They will need to use some form of connective and it can be useful to suggest a way of joining them.</p>
<p><b>Character interview</b></p> <p>Write 5 questions you would ask a historical figure, famous scientist or literary great.</p>	<p><b>Keeping a journal</b></p> <p>Write one line every day for a term first thing in the morning/after lunch/before home time.</p>	<p><b>The senses</b></p> <p>Using the five senses: see, hear, touch, taste, smell, describe your current surroundings.</p>
<p><b>Argumentative questions</b></p> <p>Who would make the best teacher? A lion or a giraffe?</p> <p>Who bakes the best cakes? Orangutans or Pelicans?</p> <p>What makes a better bed? A pile of potatoes or a pile of carrots?</p>	<p><b>Alternative uses</b></p> <p>State 5 alternative uses for:</p> <p>A brick</p> <p>A pen</p> <p>A shoe</p> <p>A hairbrush</p>	<p><b>Solving impossible problems</b></p> <p>Get your thinking cap on and solve the following BIG world problems.</p> <p>Clean drinking water for everyone</p> <p>Homelessness</p> <p>Global warming</p> <p>Too much plastic</p>

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**Do not print this page. The resource starts on page 2.**

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