

# CREATIVE WRITING

## FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

*Mostly True Stories were written by middle-school students, from fifth to eighth grade, who attend classes at the New Energy Education Center. The book is available on Amazon Now!*

New Energy Education Center  
Mostly True Stories (NEEC Student Writing)



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Format: Paperback

\$ 13<sup>50</sup>

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Usually ships within 3 days.

### What is Creative Writing?

At the middle-school level, students crave a literary sandbox to play in. Creative nonfiction gives students a rest from the academic essay while nurturing both creativity and writing skills that can be applied across genres.

Creative Writing is a literary stew: a mixture of flavors, ideas, and techniques, some of which are new and some of which are tried-and-true. Creative nonfiction can be an essay, a journal article, a research paper, a memoir, or a poem; it can be personal or objective or a mixture of both first-person impressions and reportage.

The "creative" part of the genre refers to the use of literary craft, such as simile, metaphor, dialogue, hyperbole, personification, description, and the like. The "writing" part of the genre refers to the telling of facts about real people and events. The goal of creative nonfiction is to make stories so compelling that they captivate the reader as fiction does—even though the writer is relating true events.

### Course Format

This course will use a writing workshop format and meet once per week for 90 minutes. Students will write in class as well as at home, share their work with other students as well as with the teacher, and work both individually and collaboratively with other students.

Some of the projects we will work on may include:

- Life stories (memoirs)
- Poems
- Plays
- Themed mural (collaborative work) of history
- Newspaper articles in the form of eyewitness accounts, researched pieces on neighborhood problems or special events, editorials, and the like
- Magazine-style feature articles on subjects of personal interest.

**Teacher Bio:** Maryellen has several decades of experience as a writer, editor, and teacher. She is a published author of both books and articles and teaches college writing at Suffolk Community College. Previously she taught at Hofstra University, NYIT, and Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory, NC. She also has a decade of experience as a high school English teacher. Currently she tutors students at New Energy Education Center and teaches various classes at the Center. She has a Master of Arts in English and Comparative Literature from Columbia University.