

Dear young writers,

I'm so glad you are giving Write Now! a try. You can write as much as you like in response to each suggestion; and if you run out of time in the classroom, there's nothing stopping you from taking what you've written home and turning it into an even longer piece – or maybe even a book of your own!

There aren't many rules. Write in full sentences, or in lists if asked. Think of adjectives, adverbs and really well-chosen vocabulary. It's a good chance to show off your punctuation too – and there are plenty of opportunities to use inverted commas and indirect speech when writing conversations.

I'm sorry, but you are banned from using the words 'good' or 'nice' or 'bad' to describe how something feels. Think about exactly WHY it feels good or nice or bad and describe that instead. For example, when I used to hate mushrooms I'd say they tasted 'bad' – but what I really meant was that they were slimy, grey and dripped juice all over the plate and made everything else soggy. (I like mushrooms now because I can cook them exactly how I like them myself and they are crispy, juicy and delicious on toast).

Other than that, though, you're free to write exactly as you want. Everybody will approach these tasks differently. Remember to use the five senses – sight, touch, smell, taste and sound – and also to write about feelings and emotions. There isn't a right way to Write Now! Just remember to write like you.

Oh, and if you'd like to share your writing with me, I can be found on Facebook – ask your teacher, or another trusted grown-up, to look up my page (Hayley Scott), and post a picture of your work!

Love from
Hayley Scott, author

