



Department of Education  
Region I  
Schools Division Office  
DAGUPAN CITY



MODULE IN

**SPECIALIZED**

SUBJECTS

Creative Non-Fiction

Writing the Draft of a  
Short Piece Prose  
Quarter 1– Module 4

**SHS**





## GETTING STARTED

### WRITING THE DRAFT OF A SHORT PIECE PROSE

This module entitled “Writing the Draft of a Short Prose Piece” is designed for use by Senior High School students who want to develop their writing skill specifically in writing prose pieces. Students will learn about important tips that would help them enhance and improve their prose pieces, as well as other reminders when drafting prose.

In doing this module, the following are some reminders:

1. Take the pretest before answering the module.
2. Read the instructions carefully before doing each task.
3. Answer all the exercises.
4. Take the posttest.
5. Use a separate sheet in answering all the activities.





# PRETEST

**Directions:** Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

7. Which of the following is the correct Latin translation for prose?
- A. *prosa oratorica*      C. *prosa oratio*  
B. *proseca oracia*      D. *prosen ontario*
8. A state in which an author's mind goes momentarily blank while writing a prose piece.
- A. Writer's block      C. Writer's pause  
B. Writer's end      D. Writer's trial
9. What is the best thing to do when you are experiencing a moment of inability to write anything because your mind is blank?
- A. Read other authors' works  
B. Ask experienced writers on what to do  
C. Stop writing entirely  
D. Write another piece and abandon the current one
10. A type of literature which uses measures, lines, and stanzas.
- A. Poem      C. Literary work  
B. Prose      D. Creative nonfiction



## STUDY TIME



By now, you are oriented with literature as well as its types and elements. You may now have an idea on what you would write should you pursue being a writer. This chapter will

help you improve your writing skills beginning with learning how to draft your prose piece.

**Prose** is verbal or written language that follows the natural flow of speech. It is the most common form of writing, used in both fiction and non-fiction. Prose comes from the Latin “*prosa oratio*,” meaning “straightforward.” On the other hand, **Poem** is a structured type of literature which has measure, stanzas, and lines. Examples of prose are short stories, novels, essays, newspaper articles, etc.

Before writing your prose piece, it is important to note that not all authors are writing superstars on their first try. Famous authors like Suzanne Collins and J.K. Rowling had to start somewhere with their pieces. An important skill to have is to write the draft of the prose. Here are the steps and tips in writing your draft:

### 1. Create an outline of the prose piece you want to write.

Whether essay or short story, it is important to have a clear outline for you to know how the organization will be. For essays, paragraphs can include one idea each or it can follow the

introduction, body, and conclusion format. For stories, outlines could include a chronological order of events so you won't lose track when you are already writing the events of the story.

## **2. Using the outline as your guide, begin writing.**

Just write away! But of course, you still have to consider your grammar and spelling. Try typing your ideas as they come and make sure that it is aligned to the outline that you created for some form of organization. It is not required that you start from the very beginning if you haven't thought about it yet. You can start from the middle and work your way from there. The good thing about outlines is that they act like folders where your ideas can be stored and they can be organized later.



## **3. Begin organizing your thoughts and ideas.**

Now that you have filled in the outlines with your ideas, it is now time to organize those ideas. The use of transitional devices will greatly help you in creating a smooth change of sentence and paragraph. You can use words such as *meanwhile, moreover, on the other hand*, among others.

## **4. Evaluate your work.**

Think to yourself, is that enough? Is it good? Do you still have other ideas that just came by? Don't worry. By this point, you have already created a structure for your prose and it is normal to have new ideas in the middle of producing your piece. This is the stage where you can insert those ideas in between sentences or paragraphs. You can also delete some things that you feel do not belong to



the prose.

## **5. Proofread**

When you've got your paragraphs where you want them, it's time to read your piece again and check for any grammatical errors or misspelled words. After double-checking for any errors, you can proceed to submission or publication. You could even save it as a draft so you can improve on it on a later date.

### **Tips to Improve Your Drafts**

#### **1. Keep It Short and Simple (KISS)**

You must always remember that the number of flowery words in your work is not a measure of being a good writer. It is actually good to have simple words and short sentences in your piece because that helps readers understand your work better, rather than having them not understand some terms.

#### **2. Be straightforward**

Get straight to the point and don't beat around the bush for the sake of the word count. This is mostly important when writing an essay or an article because it lets the readers get straight to the point of what you are writing. Oftentimes, beating around the bush would lead readers to not understand the flow of your piece which would make it uninteresting.

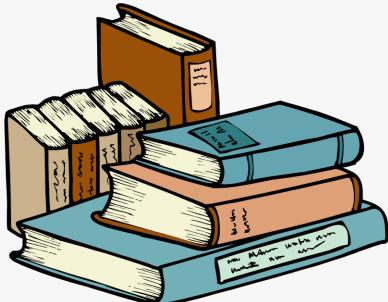
#### **3. Keep working on your draft until it's done.**

It is called a draft for a reason. Until you deem it final, don't stop improving on your written piece. You can add and subtract ideas whenever you see fit. You can also improve your grammar. The thing with literary masterpieces is that they are not made without going through the phase of becoming a draft.

#### **4. Look for inspiration or ask for help**

You might get writer's block while writing your prose,

which is totally normal! You must remember that good writers are also good readers. You can read samples prose from other artists to get you inspired, or you could ask help from someone who is experienced in writing. Once you get the inspiration you need, it will be easy to jot down ideas for your literary masterpiece.





## LEARNING ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY 1

Answer the questions on the space provided.

1. Why is it important to write a draft of a literary piece?

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2. How can you differentiate prose from poem?

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3. What must a writer do when they are experiencing a case of writer's block?

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4. Is it okay to deem a work final even though it has not been proofread yet? How will this affect the readers?

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## **ACTIVITY 2**

It's your turn to write your own prose! You can write an essay or a short story. It is totally up to you, so long as it fits into the category of prose. Use your knowledge on constructing a draft and write on the space provided your final output. You can attach a separate piece of paper if it does not fit the space.

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A blank sheet of white paper featuring horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. A decorative double-line border frames the entire sheet. The top and bottom edges of the border have a slight inward curve.



## KEY POINTS

◆ **Prose** is verbal or written language that follows the natural flow of speech. Prose comes from the Latin “*prosa oratio*,” meaning “straightforward.”

◆ **Steps in writing your draft:**

1. Create an outline.
2. Using your outline as a guide, begin writing.
3. Organize your ideas.
4. Evaluate your work.
5. Proofread.

◆ **Tips to improve your draft:**

1. Keep It Short and Simple (KISS).
2. Be straightforward.
3. Work on your draft everyday.
4. Ask for help or look for inspiration.





# POSTTEST

**Directions:** Encircle the letter of the correct answer.

6. What is the importance of having a draft?
  - A. To have a backup of the work if something goes wrong
  - B. To have a chance to improve the work
  - C. To change whatever needs to be changed on a later date
  - D. All of the above
7. Why is not being straightforward disadvantageous?
  - A. It will make the readers confused
  - B. It will affect the word count of the content
  - C. It will derail the thought of the literary work
  - D. None of the above
8. Jake is in the middle of writing a short story, when suddenly his mind goes blank and he doesn't know how to resume the story. What is he experiencing?

A. Writer's amnesia	C. Writer's block
B. Writer's memory lapse	D. Writer's trial
9. If an author deems that his/her work is final, what should he/she do next?

A. Publish	C. Let it stay as draft
B. Create an outline	D. Organize ideas
10. After creating an outline, what must the author do next?

A. Evaluate the work	C. Start writing
B. Proofread	D. Publish



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PREPARED BY:

CHARMESH D. VALDEZ, MST  
MASTER TEACHER II  
Dagupan City National High School





