



NEW WRITING
NORTH
YOUNG WRITERS



Raps from Memories

Warm Up:

Listen to your favourite song! Write down lyrics/words from it that you like. Think about why you like it—do you relate to it? Does the song have a story? What is it? Make a note of how it makes you feel.

Get Inspired:

Check out the Genius Verified series on YouTube: look for an artist you like and hear them break down their lyrics. This might help you find inspiration for your own song ideas.

[youtube.com/user/RapGeniusVideo](https://www.youtube.com/user/RapGeniusVideo)

Give it a Try:

1. Think of a memory from your own life. It can be anything that you remember vividly, for example your first day of high school, your most embarrassing moment, your favourite birthday. Anything you like!
2. Take ten minutes to write down everything you remember, retell the memory. Just write it down as you would speak it if you were telling someone else about it but make sure to go into a lot of detail. Sights, sounds, smells and how you felt at the time. Write down the story!
3. Once you are done, turn the memory into a song. Take the main details of the story as well as your emotions and put it into the structure of two 8-line verses (and a chorus, if you're feeling confident!). Make sure that it rhymes and that the story flows in the song as it did when you were just writing it out. Remember you are telling the same story, just in a song format, you can use the same sentences, they just need to flow and rhyme. It can be a case of just changing a few words and the structure.

Challenge Yourself:

When you have written your song, you can go to YouTube and try to find a backing track for it! A tip is to search an artist and add 'type beat' afterwards, for example 'Drake Type Beat'. Once you find one you like you can edit your song to flow to the beat and practise performing it.

This workshop was devised by Kay Greyson for New Writing North Young Writers.



Kay Greyson is a twenty one year old Hip Hop artist from the North East of England. Since releasing her debut mixtape 'Morning After Music' in 2016, she has performed all across the UK including opening for Akala, KRS One, Pharoahe Monch, Lil Eazy E and DJ Yella. She takes strong inspiration from her influences Chance the rapper and Childish Gambino and she incorporates their fun and interactive performance style into her own. She has been described as having a 'witty and energetic set that gets the room on board from the off'. Kay Greyson leads with her personality, telling personal and sometimes dark stories in her lyrics but delivering them with youthful joy and enthusiasm. Her most recent release '*Give It All*' is available on all platforms including the music video which is available on YouTube. Kay hopes to follow this up with more singles leading up to her EP release later in 2020.

New Writing North Young Writers is a programme for young people aged 12-19. We run creative writing groups, masterclasses and programmes in schools across the North East. We support young people to express their ideas, to work with professional writers and artists, to create and share new work, and to meet other young writers.

We would love to read your writing! Share it with us on social media using #writingfromhome or by emailing youngwriters@newwritingnorth.com. Search for New Writing North Young Writers on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter, where we will also be sharing regular writing prompts. Each week we will select a Young Writer of the Week whose work will be shared on our channels.

Find other writing workshops and much more on our website www.newwritingnorth.com

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