Imagine Capture Share
by Stacy Farrell
DEDICATED WITH LOVE

to my God-sent Aaron and Hur,
who lend me their strength when my own wanes,
and to my dear husband and precious sons,
who give me liberty to pursue His promptings,
and above all to my Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ,
the One before whom I will stand to give an account
and experience the reality of His love.
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Writing can be hard work. Good writing most often results from much rewriting, and much rewriting can make a writer weary.

**Welcome!**

Welcome to *Creative Freewriting Adventure*. We're glad you've joined us.

In *Philosophy Adventure™* students create and refine one primary writing assignment over the course of several weeks (supported by clear step-by-step instructions and seven writing checklists). We created freewriting exercises to offset their hard work with play.

Using these exercises, we discovered that even students who considered themselves “non-writers” produced surprisingly creative work. Both students and parents were amazed. (Some parents even joined in the fun!)

We are delighted to make this creative freewriting collection available to you. No prep required. Just grab a pen and paper, set a timer, and begin your journey.

Enjoy!
CREATIVE FREEWriting iNSTRUCTIONS:
Set the timer for 15 minutes and invite students to write spontaneously—without the pressure of having to spell or punctuate perfectly. *Let them have fun!* The point of these freewritings is to be playful and simply to delight in the writing process.

(Note: When we taught Philosophy Adventure in a group setting, students loved to do creative freewritings and read them aloud to each other. *It often became their favorite part of class.*)
THE GALLERY

BEHIND A CLOCK IN THE WISE WOMAN’S COTTAGE is a hidden door that leads into a great hall. Hung in the hall are the most unusual paintings. Step into the story as a spoiled princess discovers that door and decides to explore….

YOUR JOURNEY

Off she darted, and, putting her hand behind the clock, found the latch of a door. It lifted, and the door opened a little way. By squeezing hard, she managed to get behind the clock, and so through the door. But how she stared, when, instead of the open heath, she found herself on the marble floor of a large and stately room, lighted only from above. Its walls were strengthened by pilasters, and in every space between was a large picture, from cornice to floor. She did not know what to make of it. Surely she had run all round the cottage, and certainly had seen nothing of this size near it! She forgot that she had also run round what she took for a hay-mow, a peat-stack, and several other things which looked of no consequence in the moonlight!

“So then,” she cried, “the old woman is a cheat! I believe she’s an ogress after all, and lives in a palace—though she pretends it’s only a cottage, to keep people from suspecting that she eats good little children like me!”

Had the princess been tolerably tractable, she would by this time have known a good deal about the wise woman’s beautiful house, whereas she had never till now got further than the porch. Neither was she at all in its innermost places now.

But, king’s daughter as she was, she was not a little daunted when, stepping forward from the recess of the door, she saw what a great lordly hall it was. She dared hardly look to the other end it seemed so far off; so she began to gaze at the things near her, and the pictures first of all, for she had a great liking for pictures. One in particular attracted her attention. She came back to it several times, and at length stood absorbed in it.
A blue summer sky, with white fleecy clouds floating beneath it, hung over a hill green to the very top, and alive with streams darting down its sides toward the valley below. On the face of the hill strayed a flock of sheep feeding, attended by a shepherd and two dogs. A little way apart, a girl stood with bare feet in a brook, building across it a bridge of rough stones. The wind was blowing her hair back from her rosy face. A lamb was feeding close beside her, and a sheep-dog was trying to reach her hand to lick it.

“Oh how I wish I were that little girl!” said the princess aloud. “I wonder how it is that some people are made to be so much happier than others! If I were that little girl, no one would ever call me naughty.”

She gazed and gazed at the picture. At length she said to herself,—

“I do not believe it is a picture. It is the real country, with a real hill, and a real little girl upon it. I shall soon see whether this isn’t another of the old witch’s cheats!”

She went close up to the picture, lifted her foot, and stepped over the frame…

(The Wise Woman with Literary Analysis Journal, pp. 50-51)
YOUR ASSIGNMENT
If you are already familiar with *The Wise Woman*, do not feel bound by the story created by George MacDonald. This is your story. Imagine you are the princess in the great hall and describe your experience as you step over the threshold of the picture.

**Background:** Is there anything you need to say to set up the scene?

**The Dialogue:**
- Do you hear the voice of the wise woman as you cross the threshold? If so, what does she say?
- Do you meet and talk with the girl wading in the brook?
- Do you meet and talk with anyone else?

**Incorporate your senses** into your writing:
- What do you see?
- What do you hear?
- What do you smell?
- What temperature and textures do you encounter?
- Are you hungry? Do you find anything to eat? If so, describe how it tastes.

You have 15 minutes. Set the timer, turn the page, and **WRITE!**
CREATIVITY & CRITICAL THINKING UNLEASHED

Step into the frame

THE GALLERY
ABOUT STACY FARRELL

Stacy Farrell’s worldview changed when she embarked on her homeschooling adventure in 2002.

Her background as a consultant and writer well-prepared her to teach communication skills; however, only hands-on experience (and much time spent on her knees) equipped her to mentor her sons through the character-transformation required to help them work toward their full potential.

Stacy has spoken at a variety of homeschool conferences and has published articles in leading Christian magazines. She wrote scripts for Willow Creek’s youth ministry, copy for Pastor Bill Hybels “Defining Moments” Audio Newsletter, and a broad range of material for corporate and non-profit clients. She also managed a law firm that specialized in civil rights litigation and constitutional law. Today, she loves to help empower students to recover territory lost by “fuzzy thinking” and low expectations. To that end, she created:

- Philosophy Adventure™—Pre-Socratics – designed to help students 6th-12th grade cultivate and defend a biblical worldview by teaching them how to write skillfully, think critically, and speak articulately as they explore the history of ideas
- Philippians in 28 Weeks™ — a simple and painless way to memorize an entire book of Scripture
- The Wise Woman with Literary Analysis Journal Questions – an enchanting fable that un_masks the ugliness of pride and selfishness.
- Mere Christianity Critical Analysis Journal – a powerful tool to strengthen critical thinking while cultivating a biblical worldview.
- Creative Freewriting Adventure: a journey into freewriting – a collection of thought-provoking freewriting exercises designed to inspire creativity and critical thinking, even in previously reluctant writers!

Although Stacy loves to write, speak, and teach, she considers her role as wife to Roger and mother to two precious sons to be her greatest work and privilege. You can learn more about her resources at Homeschool Adventure.com.
Do you need to teach advanced writing and speaking skills?

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—Linda Hobar
Author of *Mystery of History*

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