

## **CREATIVE WRITING**

Many parents do not realize that creative writing and writing a composition are the same thing. The end result is compo. The process can vary. A boring teacher says “It’s Tuesday. The Principal says you must do 15 compos per year, so today is compo day. Title – “My Family”. Write 150 words. You have 1 hour. No talking”.

However, the teachers at Morris Allen Study Centres will use a story or an educational video or an audio tape or shared experiences to create some lively, stimulating input. The students talk, brainstorm ideas, share vocab and contribute to an enriching, interactive session. Then they can write individually with lots of creative ideas, and produce a compo.

It is the method of creatively stimulating the students with interesting INPUT that makes a session “creative writing” rather than a boring compo. Every writing activity at MASC is stimulating, interactive and creative. That is one of the many reasons children love coming to our centres.

Our teachers are including creative writing in regular sessions with all our students from the age when they begin writing – even the pre-writers are encouraged to create stories verbally. However, in the Creative Writing classes our teachers will concentrate on writing a piece every week, while comprehension, cloze and other written exercises will be reduced to allow more time to create their written pieces. The children will be storing their masterpieces in their MRF folders and bringing them home regularly for parents to see.

It will be possible for a student to be enrolled in a Creative Writing class **and** a regular Morris Allen English class at the same time as the work will not be the same.