Creative Memoir Programme

01 Introduction to Memoir Writing – *6 February*

02 Crafting Compelling Life Stories – *8 February*

03 Creative Writing Made Easy: Tools & Resources – *12 February*

04 Moving In & Around Life in Memoir – *16 February*

05 Navigating Challenges in Memoir Writing – *18 February*

06 Transforming Your Travels into Stories – *20 February*

07 Using Social Media to Share Travel Stories – *21 February*

08 Publishing Pathways – *26 February*



852 PRESS

Dr Julia Evans & Richard Evans

www.852press.com.au/creative-memoir-programme

write@852press.com.au

06 Transforming Your Travels into Stories

- Crafting stories from daily travels experiences
- Developing characters and writing dialogue inspired by real life



Travel stories

What are the benefits of writing about your travelling adventures?

Who are you writing for?

How do you share your travel stories now?

What would you like to do with them?



Graceful silhouettes in tailored coats and pointed heels glide down wide boulevards lined with gilded storefronts, their glass panes reflecting dreams of silk, leather, and jewels.

The air is a blend of high-end perfumes and freshly brewed espresso, punctuated by the rhythm of laughter spilling from chic terraces.

Beneath a canopy of wrought-iron lamps, an iconic tower glitters against the night sky, as if it too has donned its evening wear.

Elegance lingers in every step, every glance, every whispered hello.


CAFÉ DE RECRUTEMENT
PIÉTONS
ATTENTION
BUS A
CONTRESENS

Rising like a series of pristine sails caught in a gentle breeze, the iconic structure glows ivory-white against a cobalt sky, perfectly mirrored in the sparkling waters below.

Beyond, a mighty arch of steel stretches across the harbor, connecting the skyline like an unbroken promise.

The laughter of children mingles with the click of cameras, while ferries hum across the water, creating wakes that ripple like the heartbeat of the city.

As the sun dips, the bridge and sails are bathed in amber light, a beacon of harmony between nature and design.



A shroud of mystery hangs heavy in the air, where towering stone giants stand watch, their enigmatic gazes fixed on an unseen horizon.

The weathered faces, carved with ancient precision, whisper untold secrets to the howling wind that dances across this remote, rugged land.

Beneath the vibrant grass and crumbling volcanic cliffs, the ground feels as though it guards its own sacred tales.

The ocean, vast and endless, roars like a protective sentinel, daring anyone to uncover the truths hidden in this place of solemn wonder.



Writing Exercise

Creative Postcard

Write a short postcard message to a friend, no more than 30-50 words, that shares an unforgettable travel experience.

Emphasise location, emotion, and sensory details.

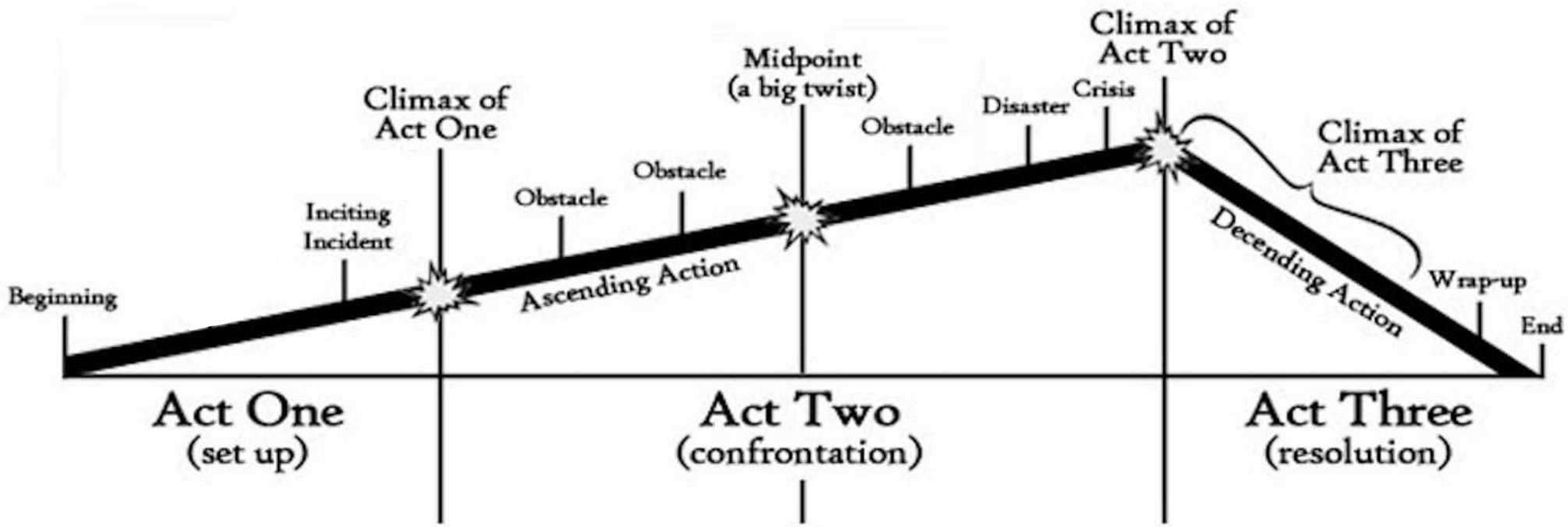


Short Travel Stories

- Moments of discovery
- Place & the senses to enhance mood
- Embrace small, everyday interactions
- Personal change
- Humour & self-reflection
- Beginning, middle & end



Three-Act Structure



Writing Exercise

List of Travel Characters

Without using their names, create a quick list of the people you've met or interesting characters you've observed already on this trip.





Cruise Characters

1. Been There, Done That
2. The Adventurers (salt & peppers)
3. Spring Breakers (schoolies for grown ups)
4. Already Over It
5. Never Leave The Ship
6. The First Time Cruisers
7. The Crew

https://theplankingtraveler.com/2019/03/13/the-7-types-of-people-you-meet-on-a-cruise/

Bring Characters to Life

Observe: Behaviours & interactions for inspiration.

Create detailed character profiles: Physical descriptions, traits & their relationship to you.

Dialogue: To reveal personalities & attitudes.

Show, Don’t Tell: Show actions, thoughts & interactions.

Emotional impact: How have they sparked strong feelings in you?



Top Tips

- Observe & take notes
- Find the story
- Emphasise emotional impact
- Write from your perspective, not a tour guide
- Balance action & reflection
- Keep it conversational & natural



Coming up

01 Introduction to Memoir Writing – *6 February*

02 Crafting Compelling Life Stories – *8 February*

03 Creative Writing Made Easy: Tools & Resources – *12 February*

04 Moving In & Around Life in Memoir – *16 February*

05 Navigating Challenges in Memoir Writing – *18 February*

06 Transforming Your Travels into Stories – *20 February*

07 Using Social Media to Share Travel Stories – *21 February*

08 Publishing Pathways – *26 February*



Writing Exercises



Photo Story

Select a photo from your trip so far. Write about your surroundings, every sensory detail. What did you see, hear, smell, taste, or touch?

Write a scene describing this moment using all five senses. Aim to 'show not tell' – avoid directly stating how you felt; instead, let the sensory details create the mood and atmosphere, allowing readers to feel the moment as you did.



List of Travel Characters

Without using their names, create a quick list of the people you've met or interesting characters you've observed already on this trip.



Character Sketch

Recall an interesting person. What about them stood out to you? Was it something they said, how they looked, or an interaction you shared?

Write a short character sketch of this person, including specific details about their gender, age, appearance, behaviour, and anything memorable they said or did.

End the sketch by reflecting on how meeting them impacted your experience or made you think differently about your journey.



Character Conversation

Write a conversation with this character.

Dr Julia Evans & Richard Evans

www.852press.com.au/creative-memoir-programme

write@852press.com.au