

Writing through



Writing through



MAGAZINE

Change

By the Writers from PEPY Empowering Youth

November 2022



FACILITATED BY:

Bee Kong-Rice, Sydney VanVleet and Kristin Schuster



[@writingthrough](#)
writingthrough.org

FOR:



លើកកម្ពស់យុវជន
Empowering Youth

Dear Reader,



I have had such a wonderful week with Orangutan group at PEPY. After hearing so much about how special and inspiring the PEPY students are, I was so excited to work with them. They have been so sweet and open to sharing. I am proud of what they wrote and hope they will continue using the skills they have learnt during the workshop in the future. A big thank you to Channa and Rattana for translating for us.

Please enjoy this fantastic magazine!

Bee Kong-Rice, Operations Coordinator of Writing Through

Dear Reader,

This week, Writing Through visited PEPY Empowering Youth and with 59 students we worked as three wonderful groups! I had the pleasure of working with the Beaver group and we wrote poems, journals and stories all about Change. What incredible students! We had a wonderful time and I am blown away by the work the students produced!

Kristin Schuster, Deputy Director of Writing Through

Hello, everyone!

After becoming more and more familiar with PEPY Empowering Youth throughout this year, it was my great pleasure to be able to come to the office and see how the lives of youth are being transformed here.

I was immensely excited to facilitate this workshop for the Fox ICT class, and I want to say that I am so proud of what they have accomplished over the course of this workshop and that they are all brilliant.

Thank you, PEPY, for all the work you do to change lives. Thank you to each and every one of the participants for your open hearts and open minds. And thank you to Wesley, my shadow, who has been a light for us all week.

Continue to do great things!

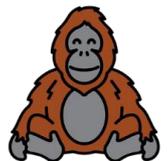
Sydney VanVleet

Leave to Change

a group poem by the writers of PEPY Empowering Youth, Orangutan Group

Writing through

When I was young
I had a lot of friends and I always thought about my future
When I was young, I did not think a lot, but now I have many responsibilities
I live far away from the family, I can do many things on my own
When I was young, I lived with my family, but now I live in a room in Siem Reap alone
I have confidence to stay alone and achieve my dream
Dependant on myself
Making decisions to choose a job
Strong, independent, chasing my dreams



Writing through

My Mother is Strong

By Soung Kolab, aged 19

My mother is strong, but my mother is nasty
My mother supports me when she is around
I felt happy, but when I left my parents I felt lonely
My mother is a wonderful heroine.
When I was young my mother always took me to get a shower.

Miss my Friend

By Ban Vaneng, aged 20

I record my memory of being young.
I have a lot of friends.
I always run with my friends after the rain.
Makes me happy
adds more
I have a lot of memories from the past
I play football with my friend
In the past I met friends every day
Talk, speak, play many things
Now I rarely meet my friends because I live far away
But we never forget each other

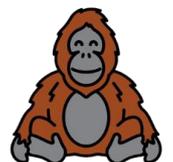


Rain After Rain

By Meas Sopha, aged 20

When it was raining I was so happy because I saw a lot of rain and thought about a lot of history.
Sometimes I think a lot of crazy ideas but they make me happy.
After rain, I saw a beautiful rainbow.
It had a lot of colours.
I liked it because it made me smile and feel good.
I thought about the rainbow, it is a cute girl, because it is so beautiful to me.
It's near to me.

Feelings when it Rains



Writing through

By Seang Huntborn, aged 21

When it rains I need a blanket and cosiness
Then I said and look out to the lonely rain
After that I miss when I was young.

In the past I played in the rain with my friends.
When I did that I was so happy.
I had a wonderful feeling.
Now I feel so lonely.



Life by Myself

By Lav Tit, aged 20

A long time ago in the morning I went to a mountain with my family.
I saw a lot of animals and big trees.
I was happy and very excited.

One day I graduated high school.
I felt very sad because I failed the exam but I came to see me to learn.
I learned at PEPY
It felt good.
I have a lot of friends at PEPY.
When I land I have my goals.
I know PEPY as a place for learning

Special Day

By Hoenu Reaksa, aged 19

After graduation, I hope to have a special day
When I finish studying at APY learning Centre.
I will graduate.
I feel happy when I graduate, but I will stay away from friends and teachers.



Writing through

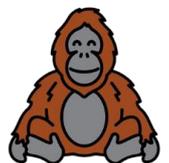
I may miss them, but I'm still smiling because it is my dream
And then I want a good job.
I will make my family happy.

Memories of Primary School

By Phorn Phot, aged 23

My life is important and so lucky
When I was born on the planet
And in my mother's womb
While I'm growing up, at maybe six years old
My mother allowed me to study
I'm so happy when I studied in primary school.
during the time I studied in primary school
I made a lot of friends and they always made me
happy.
I always played with toys with them every day

One day, we climbed the tree and then I fell down
Heard the sound - Dook!
Suddenly my teachers and my friends came around me
When I woke up, I felt pain all over my body
After they brought me to hospital



Writing through

Successful

By Savong Chreub, aged 21

One day I will be successful in both study and work
When I succeed, I will support my family and children poorer than me.
I will be really happy when I help them.
There are a lot of people, but I feel lonely.

Beautiful Day

By Noeurn Ravy, aged 19

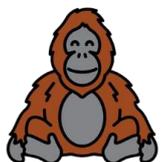
Today I bring five pink sheep to go to the mountain
I'm very happy with my animals
My sheep are eating grass with yummy faces but at that time, the black sky is on top of me
There is a lot of rain
The rain finished and there's a rainbow as beautiful as me.
In the evening, I bring my sheep back home

A Million Thank Yous

By Seut Seavlai, aged 18

When I studied at University I had a lot of friends
I am very happy because I saw the same friends all the time.
I feel very excited, like the planet is full of flowers.

When I finish university I see many people.
This is a special day for me and my friends.
Sometimes I am very happy when I graduate from university, but sometimes I feel sad because I can't meet my friends anymore



Writing through

My Fence

By Chhong Chenra, aged 18

When I was young I liked to run and play in the rain with my friends happily
Because I have no problems to solve
And I even have a mother who is still warmly caring like a wall that hides me

When I grew up, I moved away from my family to continue my education.
My mother still considers me her child and she will always take care of me.

Change

By Pha Phally, aged 20

When I was young
I'm so happy because I had a lot of friends and I stayed with my family
I always went to tie the cows near the mountain.
My friends sang with me and we heard the sound of birds crying.
Now I am in the new world.
I saw big houses, large buildings and many people in the city.
I do everything by myself.
When I go to university, I'm lonely like there is a wall hiding me and my friends

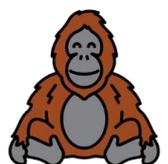
Best Memory

By Pek Peak, aged 20

One day I bring my cows to the rice fields feed them, but I'm so angry because the cows don't follow me
They don't want to go.
I want to cry when they don't follow and then I hit them, then they follow me to the field.
At that time there was heavy rain and a black sky.
It looks like the sky is falling down
At that time it's raining as people cry
The rain finished and then there is a rainbow
It is so beautiful
Then I go back home

My Friends and I

By Neng Vannoch, aged 19



Writing through

When I was young, I had a lot of friends and I always thought about my future.
When I finish studying at PEPY I would like to study at university next year and be happy with lots of friends

Next month, my friends will finish studying at University, but I'm not happy
I'm sad because of my friends
I stay away from my friends
I miss all my friends

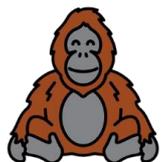
When I was young, I lived with my friends, but now I live in Siem Reap alone.
I have confidence to live alone and to achieve my dream

Study to Change

By Touch Sine, aged 22

When I was young I asked my mum to let me study higher
I want to learn at secondary school
That time I felt on top of the mountain

Currently my mum gets money to me for studying at University
When I learn at university it makes me so happy, because I have a lot of new friends.
One day, I will graduate from Vanda Institute with the friends
I will become an Accounting Advisor



Writing through

Memory with my Friends

By Sieb Phalla, aged 19

I recall my memory
I love the rainbow in the sky
The rainbow's colours are yellow, blue, green, orange and pink
Behind it the sky is raining.

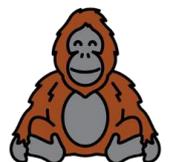
Next month, I will finish at PEPY
I will miss my friends and teacher
At PEPY, I study very happily and have a lot of friends
My friends support me with a lot of words
My goal is to finish university
I will be very happy
I have a lot of friends but I will never forget my friends

Know Myself

By Phan Chanreaksmey, aged 19

When I was in the rain and after rain
I squint my eyes. I saw a lot of people, but I don't know when I knew
But I close my eyes a little bit and think
Oh! I am a scholarship student at PEPY.

When I study at PEPY empowering youth
I could improve my English, computer and soft skills.
PEPY is the same as Angkor Wat, because it helps many people in Cambodia have jobs to do.
So PEPY helps and supports my friend and me to study at university
Only three years



Writing through

New Friends

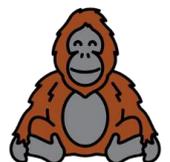
By Pov Soksan, aged 22

February made me feel amazing because I came to PEPY
I met a lot of my best friends
At first meeting, I thought my new friend was bad
After a long time, I saw that they are very good
All friends are amazing
Give me something
Give knowledge
When I don't know, you always check, tell me again

My Dream

By Hann Chingchok, aged 23

When I stayed at home, I saw a lot of smiles that my family gave to me
I feel sad but I smile because I stay in Siem Reap City
I study at a learning centre in PEPY, because I want to chase my dream
I want to study at university and find a decent job.
I want to be an English teacher



Writing through

New Place New Ideas

a group journal by the writers of PEPY Empowering Youth - Orangutan Group

I think back on my studies and moving to Siem Reap in February. I felt amazing, because I came to PEPY and felt welcomed by the PEPY staff. I saw a lot of new friends. I was happy and nervous at the same time. I introduced myself to new friends; I felt excited because I knew about them and they knew about me.

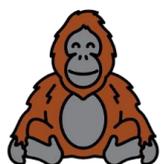
On the 2nd and 3rd February, I went to Kulen Mountain with my new friends and we camped near the waterfall. I felt happy because when I was in the car I sang with my friends. I remember it was so exciting, because it was my first time both at Kulen and camping. The view was so beautiful. I felt so refreshed and could not put my feelings into words. I hiked down the mountain. I saw a lot of birds and big trees. I never imagined I could do that.

I felt lonely, because I stayed alone in my room. I ate eggs every day. When I moved to Siem Reap, I lived in a group with my friends; I felt happy, but worried because everything was new and different. After my first day at PEPY, I felt like I knew nothing. I didn't know about English and computers because when I was in high school I didn't like studying about them. I soon changed my mind, because I discovered new interests and set goals for my future. Before I came to PEPY, I was very shy and quiet, but after two months I built more confidence because of my teachers and experiences. I felt proud of myself, when I started to improve my English and computer skills. When I was in high school I wanted to be a soldier, but after studying at PEPY I found a new passion, so now I want to be a programmer. At PEPY, I have grown, it's changed my ideas and goals for the future. I have changed my behaviour from playful and silly to focused and mature. I have gained a lot of knowledge and become a better person.

When I was at high school, I thought the world was small, but when I moved to Siem Reap and studied at PEPY I thought the world was big and beautiful. Through joining trainings and meeting a lot of new visitors from around the world, I gained a lot of knowledge and experience.

A Life Story of Love

By Hoenu Reaksa, aged 19, Soung Kolab, aged 19 and Savong Chreub, aged 21



Writing through

One day there is a family with a single daughter who dreams of being a pilot, but her parents are poor. They think their daughter should not go to school, because a girl should stay home and cook. However the girl tried to go to study. She asked her teacher to talk to her mother and her mother agreed to let her pursue her dream.

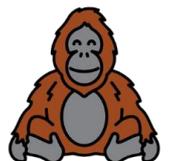


One year later she became a pilot and her mother was proud of her. She met a good man who always understood her. He gave her good advice and he helped her solve her problems. They fell in love and they got married. After that, they built a warm family.

Bad Ghost

By Pha Phally, aged 20, Meas Sopha, aged 20 and Phan Chanreaksmey, aged 19

One night, the weather is cold. Dara, a student from the countryside, saw a man sat near the cemetery alone. He did not have people sitting with him, but when Dara looked to his right, he saw a woman. Her hair was very long; her shirt was white. When she looked at him, her face is very scary; her eyes were very big. After that, he looked into her very big eyes. He urinated and was very very scared. When he saw her, he ran very fast into the pagoda. Dara wanted to continue his education, but when he saw her he went crazy and he did not continue to study at university. He returned to his house in the village.



Writing through

Frog Catchers meet a Cute Ghost

By Pov Soksan, aged 22, Phorn Phot, aged 23, Seang Huntborn, aged 21 and Ban Vaneng, aged 20

Four years ago, one night there was heavy rain, which is the farmer's session. At maybe 9.30pm, my friends and I went to catch frogs to cook for food and sell for money. I caught frogs near my home all the time, but that night we went to catch frogs deep in the forest. Suddenly we heard the sound of frogs crying, we heard the sound - Ob! Ob! Ob! But when we got there we didn't see any frogs. Suddenly the flashlight broke and we heard a girly sound and then we heard crying. We heard the sound Heeeee! Heeeee! And then my friend, Soksan, asked her who she was. She replied, "I'm a cute ghost." After we lied to her and said that I have magic. Then she showed her body and showed her big eyes bleeding, then she made a loud noise. We ran to escape from the ghost. Since then, we stopped catching frogs!



The Life of an Eagle

By Noern Ravy, aged 19, Touch Sine, aged 22 and Pek Peak, aged 20

One day a farmer has a son, his name is Eagle. He was five years old. His father abandoned him in the forest. He cried and cried. Earthquakes, black skies cut, strong winds, thunder and lightning. Suddenly a witch turned into an old woman, and then she fed Eagle.



When he was 10 years old; he could talk to the animals there. At that time he knew that the old woman who raised him was not an ordinary person and intended to take his blood to become immortal. When he knew this he immediately left the home going deep into the forest. He saw a hut with a bird that could talk to him and she told him that she was a God who had been cursed by witches.

And he went to steal the witches magic wand and when he caught the bird, she became a beautiful woman and she thanked Eagle and took him to go to the Kingdom to get married.

Writing through

While getting married, the witch went to disturb the wedding, in order to get the magic stick, but a fish killed Eagle first.

Sokha's Life Journey

By Proeurng Sokhim, aged 19, Sieb Phalla, aged 19, Hann Chingchok, aged 23 and Neng Vannoch, aged 19

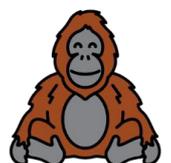
Sokha is a girl living in a remote village in Siem Reap Province. She doesn't have a mother, but she does have a father. She living with her father in a sad hut. Sokha take responsibility for everything such as: making money, learning and caring for her sick father. Every morning, she goes to school, but she's late every day because she prepares food for her father. She is good student in the class. After she comes back from school, she always does her work such as: washing clothes for others, washing dishes for others to support her family to buy medicine. One night, her father passed away.



The girl's life is full of obstacles, she was hit by a car, faced discrimination, but despite everything, all the hurt, she stood up, tall and strong, until she graduated. Through millions of tears, 5 years later she becomes a doctor. Everything changes. She has a home, money and meets people that she loves.



'Being poor is not important. The key is to know how to overcome problems better.'



Writing through

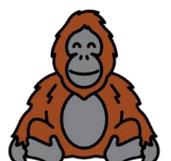
Love Miracle

By Sent Seavlai, aged 18, Lav Tit, aged 20 and Chhong Chenra, aged 18

One day at the university, there is a recruitment of new students. Johnny later saw Mary and fell in love with her. The next day there was a party to make Johnny and Mary closer. Later, Johnny decided to confess and told Mary that he had fallen in love and Mary agreed to love Johnny. In the morning, Mary's mother and father heard that Mary had an affair with Johnny and they made her break up with Johnny because Johnny was poor.



A year later, Johnny got a good job. After many months her parents began to appreciate Johnny and saw Johnny's faithful efforts. The next day, Mary's mother agreed to allow Mary to marry him with her full force. They had a large ceremony of distinguished guests. In the end, the couple was recognised by both parents and they lived happily ever after.



Writing through

Never Give Up

A group poem by the writers of PEPY's Beaver group

She is so beautiful like cherry blossoms
She wears a white dress
She is smart like a rabbit
Opportunities surround her
Freedom is shining

Abilities become actions
Ambition brings her here
Day by day she is alone
Alone but not lonely
She can fly high
Higher than a butterfly
With ideas that could fill the universe

She is a small boat on the ocean
Even the biggest wave cannot stop her
Challenges are difficult
But difficulties can make new experiences
And teach lessons



Writing through

Love Yourself

By Lai Sienlong, age 19

I am enough!!
I am worth living this life
I control my thoughts in the direction
That I choose
I am the architect of my world
I love my body profoundly, deeply and joyously
My body has its own wisdom
And I fully trust it
My looks are just a projection of what I think
About myself
I become more beautiful and more shiny
Each and every day
I love the person I see in the mirror
I love me more, I allow others to love me
I am love, I am compassion.

You Are My Sunshine

By ChhaySomavy, age 18

She is like a beautiful rabbit
When I meet her I'm so happy
You always give me a pretty smile
You are like sunshine for me
When I'm bored I miss her
You always motivate me
I hope you're happy
When I go far away
You are always on my mind
You don't worry about me
I am like a diamond



Writing through

My Strong Mum

By Khley Sahuoy, age 20

She's a person who is inspirational to me
She loves me more, she works hard for me
She never gave up on me while she felt down
She shows me how to be strong with her feelings
She brings me all I want
Even though I felt down, she never complains to me
She's my power to follow my dream



The Farming

By Kanes Kaila, age 21

In Cambodia there are two seasons
The rainy season and dry season
Rainy season is so interesting
After rain the sunrise
If we look, the field is beautiful.
Because the plants start to grow up.
The trees are green.
The canals have a lot of water.
Rainy season helps the climate
When we have a lot of trees, it reduces climate change.
Besides it helps the farmers in Cambodia get a good harvest.

Miss Family



Writing through

By Chamroeun Sorn, age 22

It's raining, I miss you.
Miss your beautiful smile.
Miss my hometown and family.
My mother tells me.
Not everything is easy.
She must be brave for life.

I am not lonely in the world.
I must study hard for myself and my family.
When you meet problems always have solutions.
I fight all obstacles.

My father is a hero.
So my parents are role models for me.
In the future, I change my life to be happy.
I must be strong when I meet the rain storm.
I can do it for my life.



The Life

By Tavann, age 19

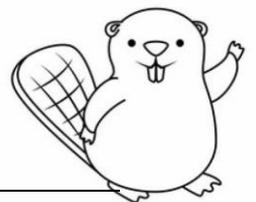
Rain and storms are the obstacles
Black clouds, they are the problem.
Although you sleep at night, you still see it in your dreams
So you must stand up to fight it.

If you feel tired, you must relax
When you are powerful, you must keep going
You have to think of a solution as more than the problem
Then you will find your future.

When you find your dream
Happiness is going to you
You stop being scared of the problem
It means you are strong.

Life With Issues

By Chbailin Chhuy, age 18



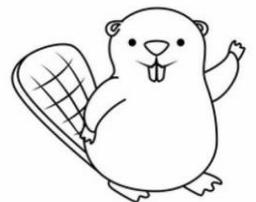
Writing through

Life is rain!
That has black clouds and storms
After rain the sun is shining
Shines with rainbows.
Grow a lot of grass and beautiful flowers
Frogs make a beautiful song on the river
Water in the field
Like our life on the ocean
Have a lot of issues and feel bored
But we need to deal with it
To get a better life.

The Forest

By Chily, age 20

It has a lot of storms
After the storms the sun is bright
There is a lot of water on the Earth
The frog jumps on the palm leaf
Butterflies fly in the sky
It has a blue sky
It's so green and fresh
It's beautiful like Heaven.



Writing through

My Dream

By Chenda Vinea, age 20

Last night my dream was like the sunrise
I try to catch my sunshine
Makes me feel better and be kind
If I follow my mind to be successful
I dream my mother can support me
Get motivated more as a rock
Like a frog outside a well
I bring myself to study
Learn more, I will succeed.

He

By Dakin, age 18

He is a man
His body is full of power
every day he works too hard
He's like a god, protecting the world
All the problems he can solve.
Even though, sometimes there are storms.
He goes everywhere if his lover needs help.
Can you guess
Who he is?

Nobody is Perfect

By Chbea Chhai, age 19

You are strong, you are pretty.
You are handsome, you are kind
You are beautiful, you are positive thinking
You can motivate yourself, you can solve all of your problems
You are friendly, you can make people feel happy
You are the best person, you never believe your eyes and ears
You always believe in yourself. You can do it.

All About Me!



Writing through

By Bronh Chan Thong, age 19

Dream like shadows
It goes far away from me
It is darkness
I can't touch and see it
Look at the society problems
Problems made from toxic people
Comparing can kill myself
If I am weak I lose
Strength is an important thing
Life experiences taught humans to be strong
Life is like a storm
Like trees touching air
Like black clouds don't see anymore
Like rain makes you wet
It can destroy your mind
The light as the sun starts to rise
Brings hope to me
Stop thinking too much what others say
I can do what I want
And happiness stays with me.



Tree

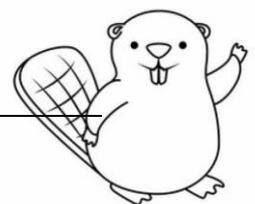
By Laem Sreyhin, age 19

I feel like I am freezing in the fridge
And stay alone far away from my family
A lot of babies dance on her body
She is like a role model on the street
Big storms can make her dance
And dry season can make her die
She can live again with brown skin
And green hair
Flowers blooming are like her hat
Just stay alone in the world with other planets.

Loving You Makes Me Hurt

By Chhan Sereyvuth, age 20

I stay up all night
Telling myself I'm alright



Writing through

Because I'm harder than most
Some day with my friends
Some day I'm alone
Knowing you makes me hurt
I never love you
But, you make me fall in love.
I look kind. I'm beautiful.
I'm important.
I hope you are happy.
I wish you all the best really.
Every single day I miss you.
You never tag me, I understand
You never call, I understand
But one day you see me
With someone else, I hope you understand.

Taste of Life

By Sreynith, age 19

You are stronger than a diamond
Don't live like a frog
Live independently and free
Fulfill your dream by being strong
Don't be afraid of failure
Although the sun sets, tomorrow the sun rises
Change challenges into experiences
Relying on your own abilities
Believe in yourself, you will achieve your dream
Don't send your happiness to anyone.



Writing through

My Parents

By Hun Sreyey, age 19

You are my life
You work so hard every day
I'm so proud of you
You always support me
Everything is perfect because of you
High commitment and strong
Strong like the storm
You are a patient person
You faced a lot of problems
Problems can't beat you
You look after all the children
Your body is for your children
You are so important for me
Children can't forget you
We are going to remember you
We take you in our heart
Heart is for you because you are super people.



Mother

By Phearo Rathanak, age 19

When she was young
She was so beautiful
But she is always unlucky
A lot of problems run to her
She is strong like a storm
A storm never broken
Her life is like a struggle
Always supports all members
Work is so hard
But never stops her
You should make her happy
Don't make her cry
Because her life is always, always too weak
But she never says I'm weak
I'm so proud of you
You are strong.

Life in the Countryside



Writing through

By Kean MeChhoeun, age 18

After rain all the plants start to grow up
The farmers start their farming
Music is made by birds.
Fish are important food for us.
Life with no technology
View fireflies at night
Chickens call me to wake up
It's time to go to school!



Nature

By Rith Sarak, age 17

I am so beautiful every season in the world.
I always smile after raining.
I make your life beautiful.
Always I make you feel so happy.
I am more beautiful in the spring.
All of life needs me all the time.
They cannot live without me.
I will lose you one day if you don't care about me.
I keep you going on
I always protect you from the storm.
If one day I'm not patient
I will leave far away from you
I cannot say goodbye to you.



Writing through

New Taste of Life

A group journal entry by the Beaver group at PEPY

I was very excited because I would have many other students to stay with, I would not be lonely. I was worried about my lessons because I want to pass. I got a new feeling because I stay alone for the first time. I knew that I would learn with new friends when I arrived at PEPY. I cried when I said goodbye to my mom. I cried when my parents dropped me off and went back to our hometown. Everything was new for me, temples, beautiful places and trees along the road. I felt very happy when I arrived because I felt warm from the staff at PEPY.

I was happy because I went camping at Kulen mountain with my friends, I sang songs with my friends. I walked for three hours, I was so happy. There were a lot of trees, it was very fresh. The beautiful waterfall had very cold water. I felt strange and shy meeting everyone for the first time. Everyone spoke with different accents from their provinces, so it was a bit weird for me. I felt a bit scared. I felt excited. Before I came I thought PEPY was a huge school with a swimming pool, I was shocked to see it was so small! A building is just a building, the people are the most important.

I was very impressed that everyone used polite words to communicate. I fell in love with the classroom, with its many decorations. I felt comfortable with the friendly staff, I know everything I share will stay in their confidence. I had a warm welcome. There are many trees, but I got lost, but I could find the way.

I had to learn to live together. I learned to cook by myself. We cook together. I learned to cook from my mother, from my friends, from Youtube, and from my friend's father. I would call my mother or a friend and ask for advice. When we live together, it's really hard to understand each other because we come from different places and different cultures. It can be difficult. It would be easier to live with others from the same hometown but it is better because we can learn from each other.

I changed from being quiet to being confident, I changed from lazy to busy. From childish to mature. I used to think it was such a long time but now time is moving so fast. Time waits for no man. It is good to learn new things and have new experiences. It's almost time to start a new journey with new responsibilities.





The Journey to the Magic Ring

By Phearom Rathanak, Chbea Chai, Ran Chily, Chhan Serey Vuth

One time in the morning there was a sunrise from the East. It was very beautiful. But the world was very quiet and didn't have people, because the world was cursed by the witch. So there were only 4 people alive. But they don't know what happened because they were in a cave.

When they left the cave, there were no people. And they called their families and neighbors. But they only hear a voice laugh "HA HA HA" and said "if you want to help people in the world you must go in the forest and find the magic ring in the high mountain. The next day, they traveled to the forest and met a beast. All the members have different skills. The first Daniel is a very good fighter. Leo is very sneaky, Regina is very clever, Charlie is very strong. They beat the beast. And they arrived at the mountain. In the mountain it was very dark and there were a lot of rocks. They saw the ring but the ring was protected by the witch. They kill the witch and got the magic ring. But the mountain was broken and they started run outside the mountain.

They started to help people and everything started to appear in the world again. They became kings of the world.

The Crime

By Chenda Vineva, Rith Sarak, Kaues Kaila

In the beautiful city there was a rich family called Kaila. Kaila married a beautiful woman in 2017. His wife name is Mesa. They had twin daughters. The oldest daughter's name is Vineva and the youngest is Sarak. They always played together and loved each other. But Sarak got a scholarship to study abroad in California. She had to move to live in the USA. Vineva was sad when her younger sister went away.

One day she went to university and she met a handsome boy name Rathanak. She had her first love. But personally, he didn't love honestly. He just wanted to get property and he kidnapped her. On a rainy day, Rathanak wanted to date Vineva but she knew about his idea so they fought and he killed her unintentionally. When Sarak came back she found out about what happened to Vineva. She wanted to get justice for her sister by pretending to be her sister. She cooperated with the police to catch the killer. She contacted Rathanak as her sister to make an appointment. Rathanak misunderstood that Vineva was not dead; he agreed to meet. She tries to talk to get Rathanak to admit the mistake he made. 15th November 2022 she met at an old building in the middle of the forest. When Rathanak arrived, he realizes the trick when Sarak

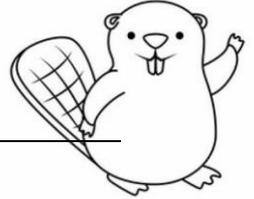
Writing through

tricked him into finding out the truth behind Vina's death. And he had no choice but to confess to Sarak.

Rathank was eventually convicted and sent to jail. Vina's family also organized a traditional funeral. As for Sarak, she came back to live with her family in her hometown.

Criminal Story

By Sabuoy, Dakin, Chhailin



In the middle of the night Room 05, on the 3rd floor, In the women's room, there was a mess and all the items were broken. There was a woman who died in a pool of blood. Her body was full of knives and a bullet. She is known as a worker in a Florida institution. Her name is Jenny and she's 25 years old. A few days ago she didn't go to work. Her friend Ann called her but no answer. With suspicion, Ann went to Jenny's room to visit her. Suddenly, she was shocked to tears . After that, she screamed!!!

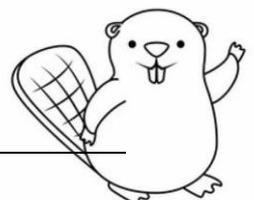
A couple of minutes ago the police came and took her corpse to do an autopsy at the hospital. After doing an autopsy the police say she tried to commit suicide. Ann doesn't believe it. She wants the police to investigate again but the police refused to help her. The reason that police cannot help her is that they don't have enough evidence to catch the perpetrator. So Ann decided to do it herself to find justice for Jenny. She tried so hard to find the killer who killed her friend.

One day Ann met a handsome man who rented a room near her room on the 4th floor. His name is Tom. They always met and they talked with each other about something that happened at their work.

On their free day, Tom invited Ann to have dinner in his room. Surely they have feelings for each other. But wait! Ann saw something in his room just like something in Jenny's room, it was a picture of Jenny and her. She thought for a moment and walked to the table like she saw nothing. After dinner she went back to her room and she felt uncomfortable, and somebody walked behind her and grabbed her. 15 minutes later she woke up. It was Tom in front of her, her hands were tied. When Tom went outside, Ann tried to call the police for help. After 5 minutes police came to help Ann and catch predators at the police station. The police asked the perpetrator if he killed Jenny or not? He told the police it was him, he is a killer. He agreed to be punished because he did not intend to kill Jenny and Ann.

Treasure Hunt

By Sreynith Khen, Kean McChoeurn, Chhay Somary, Laem Sreyhun and Hun Sreyey



Writing through

In the 1400s, there was a large empire called the David Empire, which was very wealthy and had a large population of people living in peace. This empire was an empire with many allies and ruled over others empires. Every kingdom under its control and This empire oppressed and restricted brought wealth and beautiful virgins every year. And were kept in treasures in the realm of the empire. All the treasures are buried in that kingdom, and the ghost of the commander of that kingdom will be guarded forever, no one can come and touch it.

In the 1990s, there was a group of archaeologists who wanted to learn about this empire. This information was leaked to antiquities dealers. The journey is full of challenges such as passing through caves, dense forests, dark beasts, and many evils. After there was only one that can go to the empire. His name is Daniel and he was a king before. He found all the properties and then the antiquities dealers come and arrived, and fight to seize the property. At that time, the antiquities guards killed all the antiquities dealers. Then archaeologists studied and identified the artefacts to be stored at the museum letting the next generation see and keep it forever for mankind.

Monkey and Chicken

By Lai Sievlong, Bronh Chantborng, Sorn Chamroeun and Thoeun Tavann

It was a dark cold winter night in Sievlong city. A cheeky monkey was shivering as he was walking down a dark street. It was so dark that he could not see where he was walking. As he was walking, he tripped over a creepy fat cat.

“Ah!” the monkey yelled as he fell and hit the bottom. Splash! “Yuck! I am covered in stinky little goo!” The monkey had fallen into a deep dark stinky sewer. He was trapped and terrified because he could not get out.

A little while later a foolish chicken walked by and saw the monkey down in the sewer. “Hey monkey, what are you doing down there?” asked the chicken. “Hi, chicken! Come down here so we can play and have a nice swim!” said the monkey. “I don’t know, what is that awful smell?” asked the chicken. The monkey replied, “It is so nice down here. The water is warm and clean. It is only stinky up there.”

So, the silly chicken decided to jump down into the deep dark stinky sewer. As soon as he did, the monkey quickly jumped into the chicken’s back and climbed out of the sewer leaving the brainless chicken behind. The chicken yelled up to the monkey, “Help me!” The monkey just laughed and ran away leaving the chicken in the cold dark stinky sewer. “Always look before you leap!”



Writing through



Writing through

Queen of My Life

a group poem by the writers of PEPY Empowering Youth, Fox Group, ICT 2022

When I open the window, I feel fresh
I see a beautiful girl
She gives me a smile of happiness
And she makes me fall in love

You are my sunshine
And you make me happy
You inspire me
To have a coffee.

You are friendly
You stay with me
The coffee is really sweet
Because we are together.

I see our love grow stronger
As we spend hours in the coffee shop
Will you marry me?
You are the Queen of my life.

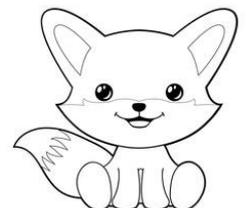


Yesterday in the Morning

a poem by Savern Sreytoch, age 21

I went to Angkor Wat in Cambodia.
I saw the golden sunrise in front of Angkor Wat
and I saw a beautiful Khmer woman.
She is an amazing person to me.
She is a wonderful moon.
Because she gave me an amazing smile
and she gave me her heart.
I am really excited with her
and I'm really proud of her.
I will remember her in my heart forever.

Butterfly



Writing through

a poem by Nboun Chbimmak, age 19

I want to see myself
As beautiful as a butterfly
then I fly anywhere.

I want to have an education to make my happiness.
If I have education and happiness, I will change myself.
When I can change myself, I can help my community.

My Friend

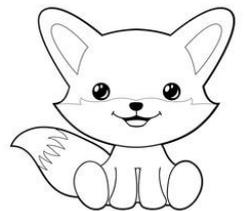
a poem by Pot Porn, age 21

Every day, my friend and I work hard
Our brains grow better
We discuss our majors altogether to be successful.
My friend is so smart like a rabbit.
I want to meet him and do exercise. He can help me get high scores.

My Mother

a poem by Phea Savan, age 21

My mother is so beautiful to me.
She is nasty but she is brave.
She is a good, strong woman.
She is always worried about her children.
And she is kind to others.
She helps the neighbors.
She is sick every day,
but she is always strong.





Studying in Siem Reap

a poem by Yoeun Tola, age 21

My name's Tola. Learning in PEPY, I am busy and I don't have free time. I came to Siem Reap to study, away from my family in Kampong Thom. My university is the University of South East Asia. My friend and I go to university to study every day. We ride a bicycle every day.

In the morning, we start learning at PEPY at 8:30 am, PEPY in the morning and university in the evening. I have a scholarship with PEPY—when I study at university, PEPY pays for me. PEPY is important to me.

You Make Me Excited in My Life

a poem by Ros Chansay, age 20

When I go to visit Angkor Wat with my friend,
I'm so excited to see such beautiful scenery.
The walls have a lot of sculptures for people to look at,
but when I look at the sculptures, I suddenly see a handsome man nearby.
He is tall with wavy hair and a beautiful voice, and he's so kind.
Especially he has a camera that he wears on his neck.
That was an opportunity to make me talk to him.
At that time, I was more amazed than the first time I visited Angkor Wat, because he made me excited in my life.

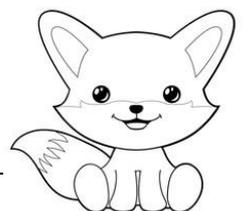
The Moon

a poem by Rin Somros, age 21

The sun started to leave from Earth.
The moon will come with me next time.
At 9:00 I opened the window
I see the moon looks so beautiful and it smiles at me.
It makes me feel better and have the power to do something
The stars live near the moon, but I feel I live near the moon.
My mother looks like the moon that I see every night
because she has a really beautiful smile to me.

She is My Love

a poem by Kuy Tangkoan, age 21



Writing through

You make me happy
when you smile with me.
Everything is sweet when I see you.
You are friendly.
You don't make me feel alone.
I think I'm a lucky person
when I see you.

You are a beautiful girl.
My life is perfect
when I met you.
I'm not lonely
because I have you.

My life is perfect.
I think I'm lucky.

Good Time

a poem by Lornng Chhaira, age 21

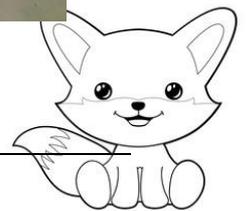
In the evening I sit on the mountain
I look to the sky
The clouds are so beautiful
and I see a lot of animals
They fly in the sky
Next I see one girl.
She stays alone.
She makes me excited
The sky starts to become dark
and I go back home.
We walk together.
She is so friendly
That time I felt happy
We are good friends.



I Just Want to Go Home

a poem by Heng Sophet, age 23

Every time when I'm sad—no, it's a happy day because of you
Every night when I sleep, I want to move
I do love you with all my heart
But I must leave for my future



Writing through



I study from the teacher's lessons very hard
When I try to speak, it's not smart
Poems in my heart forever
Miss home, miss Mom, and miss Dad. My life is bad, like lighter
I will meet you when it's better
Becoming a famous writer.

How I Feel About My Friends

a poem by Chhin Sambat, age 20

When I stay at home
I like to listen to music, it makes me feel fresh
and so good.

But when I meet my friends
They make me happy and crazy.

They always eat a lot when they meet me.
They always help me when I'm feeling sad.

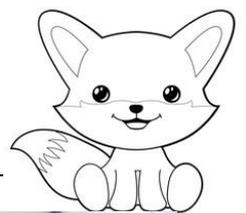


My Life is hard ways

a poem by Ret Sarun, age 23

When I opened my eyes
I looked at my life staying alone.
One day, I can catch the moon.
Success is coming soon for my life.

I am a student.
But I'm not open to studying.



Writing through



Sometimes I am so lazy.
I am angry when I'm sad,
when I don't want to study.
I easily make mistakes.

Moon of My Dream

a poem by Morn Tangly, age 21

I look at the moon alone in the sky,
but the moon is not feeling lonely. It's so beautiful to me.
I feel better when I look at the moon.
It makes me happy and fall in love.
I wish to dream about the moon every night.
It's so pretty to me. I really love it in my heart.
See you in my dream tonight.

My Happy Day

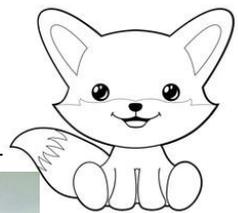
a poem by Pork Vannda, age 19

Today is a wonderful day.
I ride a bicycle to school.
And I see a lot of flowers.
I walk around school.
I see my boyfriend.
He is very friendly.
My life is happiness.
He makes me fall in love.
I feel so excited to see him.

A Beautiful Day

a poem by Chhouk Lerb, age 18

I had a beautiful day
when I learned with you
You make me feel happy
and get new knowledge.
You are like a pretty flower
that I have seen before
You are a friendly girl
You make me smile and laugh.
I'm never sad when I learn with you
You are an amazing teacher



Writing through

I feel warm when I'm near you
You always encourage me when I make mistakes.

Long Time

a poem by Cheng Somaly, age 19

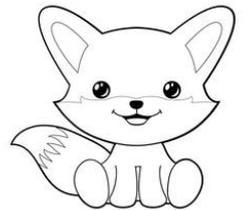
I have a bunch of roses.
It always falls one layer at a time.
Not only that. The words that I knew,
They will be forgotten too.

A Man

a poem by Chhang Seha, age 35

DaDa is a man who walks in the rain to date me
He is a superman, so strong. He is a king of lions in my mind.
He loves me, he cares for me and is so sweet

You know, he is a computer man, I need him
He is my life. He keeps me changed.
When I'm lonely, he is close to me.
When I walk through life, he is by my side and we are together.



Writing through

My Angel Baby

a poem by Dam Veasna, age 20

I love a good queen who lives in a forest
She always sings a song so sweet
She says to me, you are my king
I am a king in her life
My heart can fly when I have her.

Fake Love

a poem by Pech Srey Pin, age 20

I love you
You love another
Do you know?
I'm brokenhearted.
I'm brokenhearted because of love.
I have a sore throat because I love you.

Smile in Love

a poem by Pun Kanha, age 19

When I go to Angkor Wat
I feel wonderful
I see a lot of trees
and see a lot of people visiting.
The beauty of Angkor Wat
attracts tourists to visit.
Angkor Wat is the heart of Cambodia.
I see a handsome boy smiling at me
His smile excites me,
makes me fall in love,
and I give my smile back to him.
When I go to sleep at night
I dream that I see his smile again.
It makes me very happy.



PEPY Scholarship

a poem by Chinh Char, age 18



Writing through



I am only one girl in the village.
Trying hard to learn with a best friend.
Every day I hope to have a higher education.
One day, I applied for a PEPY scholarship.
I had a change in my mind.
When I got the scholarship from PEPY,
My life can fly as a butterfly right now.
My parents are as happy as the moon.

I'm lucky that I can come to PEPY.
I can see this big opportunity.
We also learn from each other.
And we can also get to know new friends.

A Beautiful Cycling Day

a group journal by the writers of PEPY Empowering Youth, Fox Group, ICT 2022

My friends and I were so happy to ride our bicycles to Angkor Wat. When we rode our bicycles, we saw a lot of monkeys. We took photos and ate lunch together, and after lunch, we danced together. On the way, we enjoyed looking at the natural environment. We visited three temples: Ta Prohm, Angkor Wat, and Bayon. When we rode, we sang songs together.

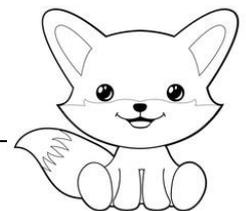
On the walls of Angkor Wat, there were a lot of sculptures. At Ta Prohm, we saw apsara, pictures, and big trees, as well as many visitors. Bayon is the temple of 200 faces. We saw many tour guides and we saw water around Angkor Wat.

We learned a lot of history about the temples we visited. The history we learned was so interesting and we gained a lot of knowledge. We drank a lot of water because it was really hot. It was an important day for us because we created great memories of our first day out together. We felt amazing. We had a better connection than before.

We went home and slept a long time. We felt happy and a little tired. When I woke up, I went to see my friends. I still remember those good feelings about this exciting day we had.

Both Best Friends

a story by Ros Chansay, Pun Kanha, and Run Somros



Writing through



In the winter, all of the animals in the jungle were building houses to live in so they could keep warm from the cold weather. Among all of the animals, two animals are best friends. They are a monkey and a rabbit. Look! They are building a house to live in together.

Every morning, the rabbit always cooks food and the monkey goes out to find food for breakfast. They are very in love and take care of each other.

One day when the rabbit went out near the house to pick carrots to cook, one tiger saw the rabbit and wanted to eat it. The tiger thought, *Oh, it will be very delicious.* But the tiger didn't know how to eat the rabbit because the monkey always helps it. And the monkey always knows the tiger wants to eat the rabbit, so it had some ideas to get rid of the tiger.

The monkey told the rabbit, "We must dig a well to kill the tiger."

One morning when the rabbit went out of the home alone, the rabbit stayed near the well. So when the tiger jumped to catch the rabbit, it fell into the well and could not get out of the well. Since that day, both best friends have lived together happily.

A Ghost Story

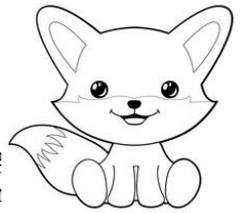
a story by Heng Sophet, Phea Savan, and Savern Sreytoch

Once upon a time, a group of students visited the countryside. They saw a house that had been abandoned for a long time, and it was dark and very broken down. Because it was getting dark, they had to find a place to rest. The village was far from the house, so they decided to stay in the house without knowing that it was haunted.

As night fell, they all slept soundly because they were tired from the day. At midnight, one of the students woke up and was about to go to the bathroom, but suddenly heard a woman screaming.

Writing through

With fear, she woke up all her friends. After they all woke up and looked up, they saw a young ghost with big eyes and long hair. Their tongues all dropped to the floor.



They were so frightened that they ran to get all their luggage and left the house in the night. In the morning, they told the whole story to the nearby villagers. The villagers invited them to sprinkle water on the house so that the ghosts would not haunt them again.

Lily Porcupine

a story by Lornng Chbhaira, Noun Chbimmak, and Yoeun Tola

Once upon a time, there was a porcupine family who lived in the forest near a beautiful lake. Also by the lake were many other animals. One morning, a porcupine baby named Lily wanted to play outside. He asked his mother, “Mummy, can I go play outside?”

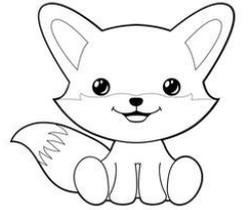
“No, darling, outside is very dangerous,” the porcupine mother answered, rejecting his request. And Lily said, “Oh, don’t worry, Mummy. I will be careful.” After he said this, Lily left the house.

While Lily was walking, he saw the animals playing and Lily wanted to join, but the animals didn’t allow him to join them because Lily had dangerous spines that could accidentally hurt them. Lily was sad and walked away.

While he was walking away, a fox came to kill the animals. This time Lily went to help them by using his spines. When Lily helped the animals, they thanked Lily and were sorry that they didn’t allow him to join in earlier. Since then, they have let Lily join their games and they all play together.



Writing through



Writing through

A Baby Tiger

a story by Morn Tangly, Pech Srey Pin, and Pork Vannnda

One day, in the morning there was a beautiful sunrise on the top of the mountain. There was a beautiful deep waterfall. At that time, a lot of animals lived in the forest. Many animals joined the tigers' party because the tigers just had a baby tiger, and her name was Stella.

At the party, many animals participated, such as elephants, monkeys, rabbits, a snake, and a lot of birds. They enjoyed dancing, singing songs, and eating a lot of food. They are so happy to see all of their friends.

When the party was finished, all the animals went back to their homes and the baby went to bed with her family.

Queen

a story by Chhouk Lerb, Ret Sarun, and Dam Veasna

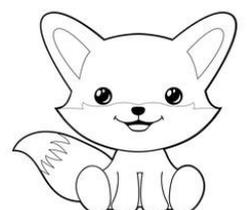
One day, there was a queen who lived in the royal palace near the ocean. Her name was Somavathy. In the royal palace, there were a lot of flowers, trees, diamonds, and birds flying in the sky.

One night, there was a witch who wanted to control the royal palace, and she put a curse on the queen that made her unable to do anything. That is, unless there was a very gentlemanly king that came that was her true love. On their first kiss, the curse would be let go for the rest of her life.

In the morning, there was a king riding on his horse, looking for a queen to marry. He took a break in the royal palace. The witch was bossing the queen around, but the king helped the queen and killed the witch. But before the witch died, she wanted to talk to the king to make sure he was a good gentleman, to see if he was possibly Somavathy's true love. The king then kissed Somavathy, and then she could do everything she could do before. They both lived together happily and had a child.



Young Intelligent Lion



Writing Through

a story by Pot Porn, Kuy Tangkoan, and Chinh Chau

A long time ago, in the large forest, a little lion lived in sadness because a hunter had shot its parents. It decided to live alone in the jungle. It was attacked by a wolf, a fox, and a tiger; they fought every day. One day, the young lion wanted to be stronger so that it could protect itself. Finally, it believed that it could do it.

Beautiful Heart

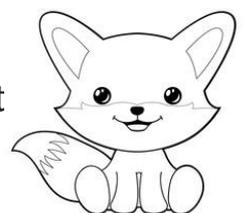
a story by Cheng Somaly, Chhin Sambat, and Bong Wat

A long time ago in the royal palace, the queen delivered a baby, an adorable daughter. This made the king extremely happy, and the people in the kingdom were completely cheerful and congratulated their Majesties.

Day by day, the little princess grew up quickly, becoming beautiful. Everywhere the princess went, those places became appealing gardens full of blooming flowers. All the people who saw her fell in love when they looked at her. The beautiful princess was not only pretty; she also had a great heart and loved her people very much. She always helped and cared about them and shared her compassion with her people in the kingdom. This is why her people showed her much affection and respect.



Writing Through would like to say Thank You to



Writing through

Kev Channa, Mai Rattana, Soury Phonn, Seha and everyone at PEPY. A big thank you to Wesley Broomsgrove for shadowing and of course our brave and wonderful students!





Helpful Tips to Keep You Writing!

In your workshop with Writing Through, you learned several techniques which you can use at home. These will help you continue to write and grow in your ability to translate your thinking and feeling into words that are uniquely you.

Use your Magic Pencil!	The Magic Pencil helps to transport you to a place that is different from your everyday life. Using it helps to create a ritual, and ritual allows us to step outside of our norms and respond to things in new ways. We also suggest finding a notebook or journal which you use solely for your writing. That will work the same magic as your Magic Pencil.
Read out loud!	When you read what you have written out loud, you can hear the words in your own voice. Then ask yourself these questions: Do you like what you hear? Does this sound like you? Do you stumble when you say some of the words you've written? If anything that you have written doesn't feel right, or doesn't really express what you want to say, then change it. It can also be helpful to do your out-loud reading in a different place from where you did your writing. A change of scene can often make you see what you have written with greater objectivity and clarity.
Don't forget your brainstorm!	Before you start, grab your Magic Pencil and start to brainstorm about a very general idea or topic which you want to write about. Make your list of words or phrases as wide and varied as you want. <i>Don't edit yourself.</i> Write down whatever pops into your head. This will get you started and might well bring up some new ideas that you didn't even know you had.

The Four Rules of Writing Through



1. **Do not think!**

Relax, close your eyes, and take a deep breath. Let words and ideas pop into your head, even if you do not know why they did.



2. **Use the *back* of your brain.**

The ideas that live in the front of your brain are the everyday, not-so-exciting ideas. We want to hear about the unique and special ideas that live in the *back* of your brain inside your imagination.



3. **Write with your ears.**

Words have meanings *and* sounds. Listen to the sounds of words and letters. When choosing words for your poems and stories, think about how the words sound.



4. **You cannot make a mistake. (No mistakes.)**

This is the most important rule. Do not worry about making a mistake. If you have an idea and it comes from your head or your heart, then it is right. It is not a mistake. ***Never worry about being wrong!***

Writing through



Do you have more ideas? Write them here...





Writing Through is a unique, proven program of workshops which teach conceptual and critical thinking skills, through the vehicle of creative writing workshops. We emphasize the importance of thinking in new ways as not only a form of expression, but an antidote to various societal and global issues which we all face today.

Writing Through was founded in 2014 by the award winning writer and teacher, Sue Guiney. Guiney's novels and poetry have been published and anthologized widely throughout America, Europe and Asia. She has lectured in universities globally about the value and practical application of arts education. The Writing Through Program grew directly out of her experiences as a writing workshop facilitator throughout the world.

Today, we partner with over thirty organizations around the world and help students find their voices and express their thoughts. Once they are able to do that, they can develop a sense of confidence and self-esteem and that is something that stays with them, that they can carry into every other part of life – whether it's school, whether it's work, whether it's relationships with family and friends.

Writing Through's ultimate aim is to help everyone find their own special voice and to use that voice to create a fulfilling life for themselves, despite the complexities of the world around them and the challenges they might face. And we are doing it one poem, one story at a time.

Book your next Workshop:

info@writingthrough.org

Find out More About Us:

54 Blueberry Ridge Lane, Chilmark,

MA 02535 US, EIN: 47-2750346

www.writingthrough.org

[@writingthrough](https://www.instagram.com/writingthrough)

