

Creative Writing

Definitions

✚ **Create:** to bring into being; cause to exist; produce; to evolve from one's own thought or imagination; to be first to represent; to make by investing with new character or functions; constitute; appoint.

✚ **Creative:** having the quality or power of creating originaive; productive.

Technically speaking, we “create “when we cause something to exist. For example when the potter makes a pot, the chef prepares a dish, even when a child draws a line. Thousands of words are written every day by reporters round the world but hardly anyone would describe them as creative acts.

Here the question arises, what is creativity?

Creativity is not just causing something to exist. It is causing something to exist that is remarkably different from similar other things that have existed earlier.

Creativity is divergent thinking, of seeking relationship between previously unrelated concepts or frames of reference, of exploring the under- know. The outcome of this effort may or may not be striking, but the effort reveals the characteristics of the creative process: exploration, incubation, insight.

Divergent thinking

Guilford first proposed the concept of "divergent thinking" in the 1950s, when he noticed that creative people tend to exhibit this type of thinking more than others. He thus associated divergent thinking with creativity, appointing it several characteristics:

- ✚ fluency (the ability to produce great number of ideas or problem solutions in a short period of time)
- ✚ flexibility (the ability to simultaneously propose a variety of approaches to a specific problem)
- ✚ originality (the ability to produce new, original ideas)
- ✚ elaboration (the ability to systematize and organize the details of an idea in a head and carry it out).

Guilford believed that standard intelligence tests do not favor divergent thinking, working better for convergent thinkers.

It is possible to define creativity in yet other terms, such as the ability to go to the roots of a phenomenon by unraveling its causes and visualize its consequences or to elaborate on a theme through free insights.

Imagery

Connaught Place

**A horseshoe
with passages like sundered intestines
circling a patch of green.
At the heart of this cosmos sprawls
a Garden of Eden that shelters stray
lovers, truants from offices and shops
while coffee-coloured shoeshines prowl
around like a clairvoyant chorus
looking for the feet of clay.
The circus runs on
under the summer's candid sky—
shoppers, pimps, smugglers
and the newspaper boy prophesying
the world's end.**

It is perfectly possible to increase creativity if the mind is freed from its inhibition, and self-raised walls are broken down.

To write creatively, the writer must seek more in a situation than meets the common eye.

Scenery

Ex- The road from Karwar ran for some time past the stippled vociferous sea, with huge, swift waves rushing at the white beaches like bulls.....

Imagery can be overdone and a careful writer will strive to write elegant prose uncluttered by too many similes, metaphors and their like. Nevertheless, imaginative prose that evokes sounds and images has its special relevance: it can vivify the language and make otherwise humdrum situations vibrate with very life and therefore meaningful.

The important thing to remember is the writer's penchant for association of ideas and themes.

Strong motivation

Creativity, of course, can be increased. First, the motivation to be creative must be strong; where motivation is lacking it is unlikely that the teacher of creative writing will succeed with his student. There should also be continuity in motivation. Creative writing is not a one-shot affair; it must be straight from the heart.

The trick is to let the mind float in to the unknown, to go from familiar to unfamiliar terrain and back to familiar again and to come up with analogies, metaphors and emphatic statements.

Do not just think. Feel.

Do not just celebrate. Emote.

Exercise your mind, certainly. But do not be afraid of your heart.

Creative writing is, where the heart is permitted to flow and the thoughts are not deliberately structured.