

Project 2: Original Riddle Essay

Who Am I? Riddle Paragraphs

Overview of Creative Essay

Many people enjoy reading riddles. Did you know that you can write a riddle paragraph?

A riddle paragraph is one in which you give hints in your paragraph about the answer to your riddle—but you do this in a certain order so that your reader cannot guess the answer right off the bat.

Doesn't that sound like a fun paragraph to write? You will be directed in this step-by-step, so don't worry! I will help you learn how to write a fun riddle paragraph!

I. TOPIC OF ESSAY

You will write an informative essay about one or two of the characters from *Peter Pan*:

- A. Peter Pan
- B. Tinkerbell
- C. Captain Hook
- D. Smee
- E. Wendy
- F. Michael
- G. John
- H. Mr. Darling
- I. Mrs. Darling
- J. Nana (the dog/nanny)
- K. The mermaids
- L. Tic Toc the crocodile

II. NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS IN THE BODY OF YOUR ESSAY

- A. **Basic** students will write **1 paragraph** for the body.
- B. **Extensions** students will write **2 paragraphs** for the body (two different riddles/two different characters).

III. SENTENCES PER PARAGRAPH

- A. **Basic** students will write **4-6 sentences per paragraph**.
- B. **Extension** students will write **5-7 sentences per paragraph**.

IV. OPENING PARAGRAPH

Students will not write an **Opening Paragraph**.

V. CLOSING PARAGRAPH

Students will not write a **Closing Paragraph**.

VI. ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- A. **Researching**
- B. **Brainstorming**

Note: This Overview Box, which is provided at the beginning of each assignment, is here to give students (and teachers) an at-a-glance look at the entire composition project. Each step of each lesson is assigned and detailed throughout the week(s).

Lesson A. Choose Your Character and Brainstorm

<> **A-1.** Choose a character (or two for Extension) from the story of *Peter Pan* from the Overview Box provided for this lesson. Choose someone that you enjoy learning about and that you think you can stump somebody with guessing game clue sentences! Write your person's (or two people's) name on the line.

(1) _____

(2) Extension: _____

<> **A-2.** Take a look at the Sample Brainstorming Box (Sample Box A-2) provided.

Sample Brainstorming Box

Green dress	Girl (1)
Small (5)	Blonde hair
Pixie dust	Pony tail (2)
Wings (6)	Fast (3)
Bell	Flies
Jealous (4)	

Sample Box A-2

<> **A-3.** Brainstorm and write characteristics, attributes, funny things, etc., about the character you chose (in A-1) in the Brainstorming Boxes provided (Box for A-3).

(1) Just write anything you can think of.

(2) Don't worry about whether you will use it or not.

(3) Jot down things even if you don't know that much about that tidbit since you will be researching in the next lesson.

All--Brainstorming Box: First Character

Blank writing lines for brainstorming the first character.

Box A-3

Extension--Brainstorming Box: Second Character

Blank writing lines for brainstorming the second character.

Box A-3

Lesson B. Research Your Character(s)

<> **B-1.** Highlight or underline things that you wrote in your Brainstorming Box that you are unsure of or that you need more information about in order to write a sentence about it.

<> **B-2.** With your teacher's help or permission, look up your character in an online source or find information in order to write a sentence about him or her.

- (1) Look for more information about the tidbits you already have, if needed.
- (2) Look up new information that you didn't think of when you were brainstorming.
- (3) Add all of this to your **Brainstorming Boxes** (Box A-3).
- (4) You will need six to ten pieces of information for each character/each box, according to your teacher's instructions.

Lesson C. Compositon: Write Sentences

<> **C-1.** Look at the Sample Sentences provided (Student Sample Box C-1).

1. I am a short male.
2. I wear a hat on my head.
3. I have a large number of friends.
4. I took the Darlings to Neverland.
5. I fought Captain Hook.
6. I wear green leggings and can fly.

Student Sample Box C-1

<> **C-2.** Work in your Brainstorming Box to get ready to write your six to eight guessing sentences by doing the following (Box A-3).

- (1) **Highlight all of the information that** you think you will want to use in your sentences.
- (2) **Put a number beside each piece** of information:
 - a. Put a #1 beside the information that is the least obvious--the information that you can put in a sentence at first that will stump your reader. (You don't want your reader to guess your character with the first sentence!)
 - b. Put a #2 beside the next least obvious (next to the hardest clue)
- (3) **Extension:** Repeat these steps for another paragraph/character.

<> **C-3.** Write your sentence on the lines provided following these instructions:

- (1) Using your **hardest clue** (the one you put a #1 beside), **write a complete sentence on Line One.**
- (2) **Write as though you are that person**--say *I, me, we, etc.* (See First Person Writing Box provided.)
 - a. For example, don't say, *He is male.*
 - b. For example, do say, *I am a male.*
- (3) Using your **next hardest clue** (the one you put a #2 beside), **write a complete sentence on Line Two.**
- (4) **Continue in this manner.** Be sure that your hard clues come first (the ones that will NOT give your person away) and your easiest ones come near the end.
- (5) **Write as many sentences as you have notes for** or as many sentences as your teacher assigned you.
- (6) **Extension:** Repeat these steps for another paragraph/character.

First Person Writing

*You will write your paragraph(s) in the first person.

- (1) You will be the person in your paragraph!
- (2) You will use first person words like those listed below.
- (3) You will pretend to be that person!

I	me	my
mine	we	us
ours		

Box C-3

All-Your Riddle Sentences for Character 1 (C-3)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

SAMPLE

Note: You may not use all of these lines.

Extension--Your Riddle Sentences for Character 2 (C-3)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

SAMPLE

Note: You may not use all of these lines.

Lesson D. Composition: Write a Paragraph

<> D-1. Read the two sample paragraphs provided (Sample Box for D-1).

Sample Riddle

I am a male, not female. I am named after someone else. I am married. I have two sons and one daughter. My wife's name is Mary. My daughter's name is Wendy, and she is a friend of Peter Pan. I work with money.

Sample Box for D-1

Sample Riddle

From the following clues, attempt to guess who my character is from the movie *Peter Pan*. I am a male and not a female. My upper lip is covered with hair, formerly described as a mustache. I am fairly tall with a head of long flowing hair the color of licorice. I only have one hand and a hook in place of my missing hand. Peter Pan is also my worst enemy.

Sample Box for D-1

<> D-2. On the lines provided, write your sentences in paragraph form.

- (1) **Write your first sentence first.** (Be sure you indent a finger space or two to show that it is a paragraph.)
- (2) Right where your first sentence ends, after your period, **leave a tiny space and write your next sentence.**
- (3) **Keep doing this with all of your sentences,** making a nice, neat paragraph (not a line of sentences).
- (4) At the very end, **add a sentence that tells who your character is, such as *By now, you probably guessed that I am Peter Pan!***
- (5) **Extension:** Repeat these steps for another paragraph/character.