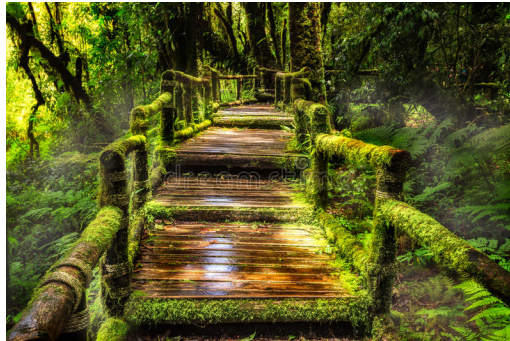


## **Something Little Such as a Snippet**

April 20, 2023

Suzanne Nielsen



6:00 – 6:10 Review a snippet in time

Free Write: 15 minutes

Process: 30 minutes

### **Think of a photograph, a snippet in time (10 minutes)**

**What's happening? (what do you smell?)**

**Why is it happening? (what do you hear?)**

**Who is involved? (what do you see?)**

**Where are we? (how does it feel?)**

### **PRACTICE PHOTO: (15 minutes)**

**What's happening? (what do you smell?)**

**Why is it happening? (what do you hear?)**

**Who is involved? (what do you see?)**

**Where are we? (how does it feel?)**

**REMEMBER, to keep it small,**

**1. Start in the middle.**

**2. Don't use too many characters.**

**3. Make your last line linger.**

**SHARE SNIPPETS of less than 500 words (30 minutes)**

### Ideas for FREE WRITES

1. Make a list of words, enough to fill an entire page. Pick five words at random from a list and write them at the top of a piece of paper. Write a piece that incorporates all five words.
2. Cut lots of individual words out of a magazine and put them in a container. Pick three to five words at random and use them all to form a title. Write a piece inspired by the title.
3. Recall a visual image that has always puzzled, mystified, or fascinated you. First describe the image and then write a piece inspired by it.
4. Use an old photo or a photo from a magazine. Write a piece inspired by that image.
5. While sitting on a bus or in a cafe or walking down the street, etc., write down one line from a random conversation. Use that line as the first sentence of a piece of writing.
6. Open a book, any book. Closing your eyes, use your index finger to pick a sentence at random. Use that sentence as the first line of a piece.
7. Using exercises #5 and #6, reverse the order - use the sentence as the *last* line of your piece of writing.
8. Pick a line of poetry, a single line - can be the title, the ending line, or one from the middle of a poem - and use that as the beginning or final line of a piece of writing.
9. Put on a piece of music without words that lasts approximately three to ten minutes and write something that reflects the emotional tone of the music.
10. Write a conversation, consisting of *dialogue only*, in which someone is hurting someone else.
11. Choose an object in the room and describe that object for five minutes using third person point of view and present tense. Then write for five minutes in present tense from the object's point of view.
12. Describe your happiest moment.
13. Write your own obituary.
14. Write the history of your life, in ten minutes.
15. Write the history of your life, going backward.
16. Pretend you are separated from your body. Observe yourself from a slight distance. Describe how you look, what you might be thinking or feeling at this particular moment.
17. Describe yourself at a certain vividly-remembered moment in childhood, in the third person, past tense.
18. Repeat #17, but in the first person, present tense.
19. Repeat #18, but in the third person, future tense.
20. Describe yourself as you hope to be when you're 90.
21. Write about a lie you once told.
22. You have a memory in which the color brown is predominant. Write about it.
23. You have a memory in which someone's hand is stretched toward you. Write about it.
24. You have a memory in which you are running fast. Write about it.
25. You have a memory in which you are laughing in the dark. Write about it.
26. You have a memory in which you witnessed someone hurting someone else. Write about it.
27. You have a memory of a certain house. Write about it.
28. Write about one extraordinary moment from your childhood. Write about the same moment from the third person, past tense.
29. Recall your favorite scent and one memory which it evokes. Recall your most hated smell and one memory which it evokes.
30. Write about one aspect of your body and your feelings about it.
31. Write about your favorite article of clothing and why you love it.
32. Recall your most embarrassing moment and write about it.
33. Recall your proudest moment and write about it.
34. You have a memory in which you are alone in the woods. Write about it.

35. You have a memory of water. Write about it.
36. You have a memory of looking at your own reflection in a mirror. Write about it.
37. You have a memory of swimming in the dark. Write about it.
38. Write about something you have never told anyone about.