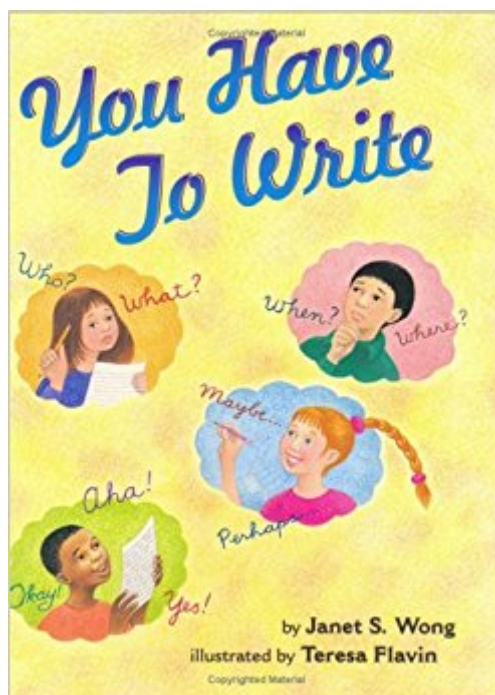


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# You Have To Write



## Synopsis

You have to write! It's a class assignment. But you have nothing to write about. All the other kids seem to have something to tell because they start in right away. What can you do? Stop and think. No one else can tell your stories -- about your family, your dog or cat. No one else can tell how it was when your library book got soaked in the rain. But what if you don't like what you write? There are all sorts of ways to change it, to make it better. Keep on playing with your words, putting them together in different ways. You want whatever you write to be good. It will get better and better as you work on it. This is an encouraging book, sympathetically illustrated by Teresa Flavin's charming pictures, for all young readers who worry when they're told to write something.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry Books; 1 edition (July 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689834098

ISBN-13: 978-0689834097

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.8 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 15 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #113,148 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #94 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Reading & Writing > Composition & Creative Writing](#) #132 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor > General](#) #1173 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > School](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-5-This book's gentle but direct approach to creative writing may not appeal to all youngsters, but it may help some students to address some common struggles and to find their own voices. Through free-verse poetry, Wong targets a group of youngsters looking for good topics for a writing assignment. "You want it to be good, to make us cry or bust up laughing when the room is quiet." They are encouraged to look around, and not to be discouraged by the worldliness or experiences of others. "Wait. Did you forget who you are? Who else can say what you have seen? Who else can tell your stories-." A photo albumlike page shows a variety of pets, holidays, hobbies,

vacations, and family outings that could be possible topics. "Reach inside. Write about the dark times. -Write about the bright times. -Take your mind for a walk back to this morning, back to yesterday-." Examples are given of parents fighting, a wet library book growing mildew, childhood fears of storms, and taking out the trash. For "Weave them together- half of Draft 1, a word from Draft 4, a whole line from number 5. Try. Because you have to write, and you want it to be good," the illustration shows each child laying out stretches of many drafts on the floor. The simple realistic gouache paintings are rather ordinary but appropriate for the "writing from life" philosophy that is espoused. Adele Greenlee, Bethel College, St. Paul, MN Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gr. 2-4. It's the dreaded class task: write something! "You have to write. You hate to write." Wong's poetic text, which encourages kids to use their own experiences, is practical and also sometimes amusing. The with-it rhymes set the tone while gouache illustrations depict four diverse kids as they sift through the advice, thinking and envisioning. One scene shows the students at their desks picturing different locations they might write about. A variety of page compositions effectively exemplify various choices by using overlapping scenes and albumlike framed images. "Take your mind for a walk" and "think about the plain, the everyday." The direct, you-can-do-it approach will stimulate kids to write and also help them with that dismaying assignment. Lots of classroom teachers will find this a great motivator. Julie Cummins Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

students enjoyed this story, I love the ideas they found

Great book to get kids motivated to write.

I bought this book to use in my 6th grade writing class to help inspire kids to write about everyday life. I am very disappointed & will probably not use it at all. The scenarios are very elementary & the way to persuade young writers is not like this. I get the point of the book, but it's not practical for kids who are already reluctant to write.

You Have to Write is a great book to use to encourage young writers to look at their own experiences as the launching pad for their writing. Uses kid language and thought to stimulate ideas.

My class could really to the words and the illustrations in this book. "Seeing" simple everyday ideas as topics for their writing made everyone feel a bit more like an author! Thank you.

You Have to Write is a must for every teacher who teaches writing. It is perfect for generating ideas. Students will identify with the struggle of what to write.

I bought this for my elementary school's library. The 3rd grade teachers use it every year with their curriculum. It is wonderful!!!

Children need to know that what they have to say is important and this book tells them in the best of ways

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