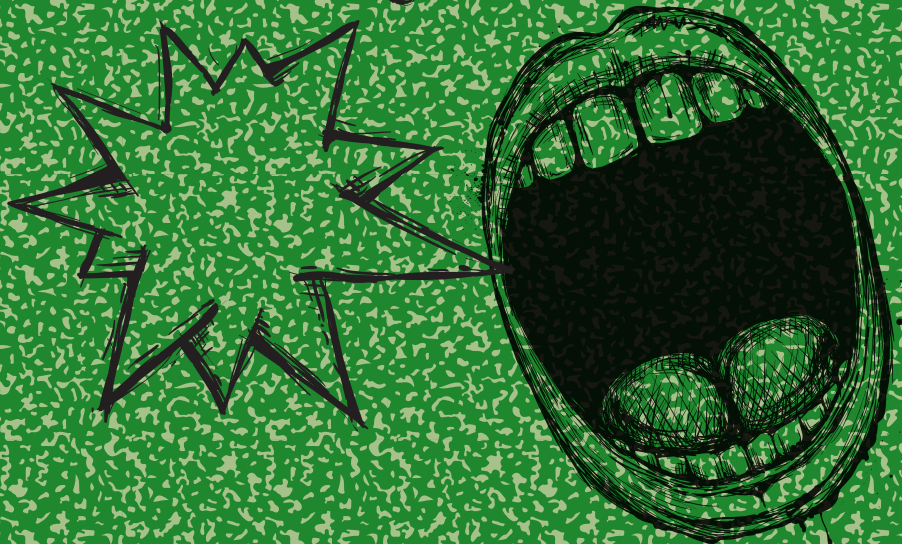


# Find Your Voice



**CURRICULUM KIT**



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# Dear Teacher,

You are holding this kit because you understand something fundamental: that youth voices are worth amplifying. You understand that just because they are young does not mean that they don't have anything important to say. We want to thank you, first and foremost, for your desire to empower youth voices through creative writing.

Each class is a grab bag of students and one size does not fit all. Students can come to us with any number of feelings toward writing. They could love it, they could hate it, or they could be anywhere in between. This kit is intended to embolden you and your students to try something new and creative. Without a doubt, you will be surprised by the results.

This kit does not come at creative writing in the way students, or even you, may be used to. It will take a bit of adjustment and trust. Don't worry, we've got you. We have prepared this kit so that much of the housekeeping (standards met, unit calendars) is already taken care of for you. We want you to feel free to have fun. After all, if you're having fun, so will your students.


Speaking of fun, this is where that trust comes in: jump in with your students. Write with them, share your work, and be as vulnerable with them as you are asking them to be. It is that little window that truly lets all the sunshine in. Your students may feel nervous about writing, they might feel cranky, or they might not understand that you are not grading their writing and they can write whatever they want. That is a tremendous amount of freedom, so what should we do with it?

Writing is an art form that belongs to everyone. We tell stories all the time; humans have been doing it for centuries, and students have been doing it from the moment they have learned to talk. The gift is in them already. Now let's play.

Write on,

The 916 Ink Crew

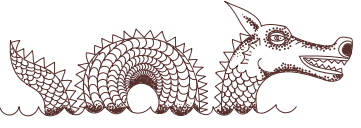
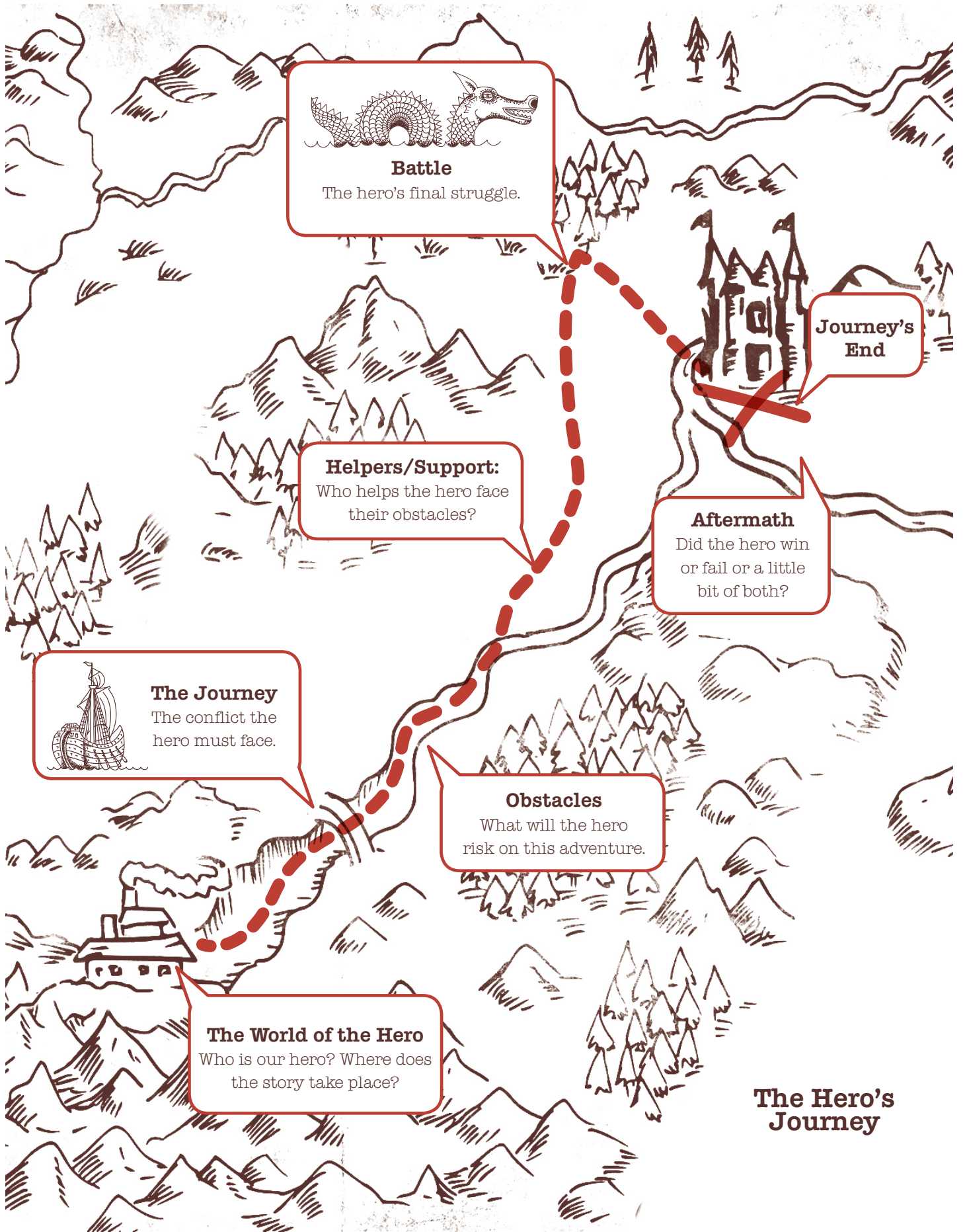
# The Generative Phase



**T**he **generative phase** of the process is where students are only working on generating writing, which is interspersed throughout the sessions of the program. The generative phase encompasses **three genres** of writing as follows:

1. **Fiction (Hero's Journey group story and solo prompts)**
2. **Poetry**
3. **Creative Nonfiction**

The following sections will cover the generative phase and genres in detail. You will also find applicable prompts and materials to go with each phase that you can plug into your session plans.

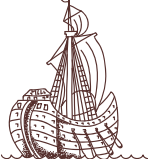


**Battle**  
The hero's final struggle.

**Journey's End**

**Helpers/Support:**  
Who helps the hero face their obstacles?

**Aftermath**  
Did the hero win or fail or a little bit of both?

  
**The Journey**  
The conflict the hero must face.

**Obstacles**  
What will the hero risk on this adventure.

**The World of the Hero**  
Who is our hero? Where does the story take place?

## The Hero's Journey

## Hero's Journey Solo Prompts

These **solo prompts** are aligned with **The Hero's Journey** and are to be utilized during the **solo prompt** section of your writing day. The following **solo prompts** are divided by the steps in **The Hero's Journey** that they correspond with, and you may notice some overlap. This is due to the fact that (with minor modifications) some prompts can be used on multiple steps within the journey. These prompts are also applicable to multiple grade levels and can be differentiated accordingly. 916 Ink has used these prompts from grade 3 all the way to grade 12!

Each of the **solo prompts** includes a suggested set of **sparks**, which are included after the **prompts** section. The **sparks** are separated into work from “Student Writers,” which we have included for your use as they are from previous 916 Ink publications, and “Professional Writers,” which are not able to be reproduced in this curriculum kit yet are easily accessible online.

## STEP 1: THE WORLD OF THE HERO

### Newfound Leader

#### PROMPT

By some strange power of succession, you have been made the ruler of a faraway, forgotten land. Create your own country. What are the people like? Are there any laws? Are you an absolute ruler, like a king or a queen? Do you have a flag? Go crazy with your country. Keep in mind, countries usually have allies—is your country allies with real-world countries or other faraway, forgotten lands?

#### SPARK(S)

##### Student Writer (Grades 3-6)

“The Land of Magic”—Amal Ahmed

##### Professional Writer (Grades 3-6)

“New World”—Shel Silverstien

##### Professional Writer (Grades 7-8)

“Fire and Ice”—Robert Frost

##### Professional Writer (Grades 9-12)

“Hair”—Elizabeth Acevedo

“Still I Rise”—Maya Angelou

“Character of the Happy Warrior”

—William Wadsworth

