



REM 104D

# The FUNbook of



# Creative Writing

30 Silly Story-starters Featuring:  
Comical Characters & Hilarious Happenings

WRITING



Great For  
Reluctant Writers!

Snowball gives a new meaning to the term "Fat Cat"-  
next year he may even get his own zip code.

For Students  
of All Ages

Carl Gargle has a 200-pound cat named Snowball.  
Carl has a lot of trouble with Snowball. For instance...

Easy-To-Use  
Format



"Gentlemen, start your paint buckets."

Attention-  
Grabbing  
Topics

Classroom  
Tested

Herbert Sherbert paints the white lines on all the  
highways for the highway department. One day...

Remedia Publications

Written by: Dennis E. Paul



Mrs. Smith  
Smith Academy  
Scranton, Pennsylvania

# The FUNbook of Creative Writing

REM 104D

Another Teaching Resource from...



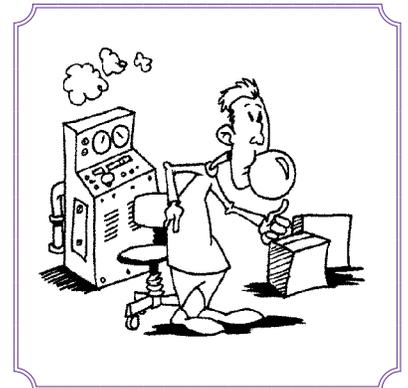
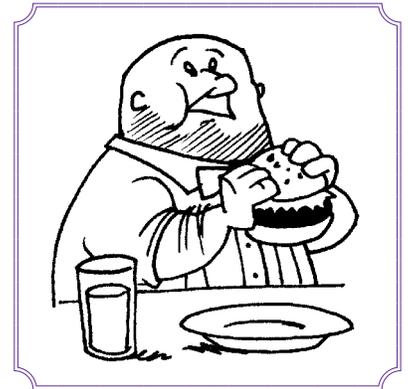
Written by Dennis E. Paul  
Illustrations by Danny Beck  
Captions by Dan W. Deacon

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## ABOUT THE BOOK

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The attention-getting, humorous story starters in this book will surely spark the imagination of the most reluctant story writer. The antics of characters with unusual names will motivate young writers to complete the stories and even create their own stories about the subjects. Reading Level is 3.5–4.5.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Dennis Paul has been an educator for over twenty years. He taught for eleven years in a one-room school, working with students in grades K-8. He also has served as a special education teacher in a school for homeless students, and as a teacher for acute care adolescent hospital programs.

Currently, he is a special education teacher for the Juvenile Detention Facility in Mesa, Arizona. For many years, he has been creating math word problems, story starters, games, and other materials, to help motivate his own students.

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## SUGGESTIONS

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Below are suggestions for expanded use of the *FUNbook of Creative Writing*.

- ✓ Have students share their stories with the class through oral reading.
- ✓ Place students together to create a cooperative story.
- ✓ Help students spin off the story ideas to create original plots.
- ✓ Have the whole class brainstorm ideas for various conclusions to a story.
- ✓ The teacher underlines selected words in students' stories and has them find synonyms for those words (as a vocabulary enrichment activity).
- ✓ Divide students into groups to create dialogue for the characters and then act out the story for the class.
- ✓ Have students draw original artwork relating to each story written.
- ✓ Collect each writer's own stories in an individual Fun Folder of Creative Writing.

Dear Teachers and Parents,

Faced with a writing assignment, many students go into shock, recover, and then ask, "What do I write about?" The **FUNbook of Creative Writing** provides reluctant writers with story starters that will help ease the shock. As a teacher for over twenty years, I know how difficult it is to motivate students to write original stories using their own imaginations. Many language arts textbooks lack good, funny, creative, and attention-grabbing story starters. The story starters in this book are about characters with unusual names that are involved in extraordinary situations. My students love to read them aloud and even come up with their own ideas.

The **FUNbook of Creative Writing** can be used with large or small groups. Write one of the story starters on the board before class begins. Ask the students to think about what would happen next in the story. Have volunteers tell how they would continue the story and how they would end it. Telling stories aloud helps other students think of their own ideas when it is time to put them on paper.

Another way to ease reluctant writers into the process is to have each person in the class contribute the next sentence in a story. I do this with my students and when parents visit the room, the students proudly point to the part of the story that they contributed.

Sometimes I put each story starter on an index card and ask each student to pick one out of a box. I also have two students write a story as a team. In this way, slower students can learn from their partners as they exchange ideas and thereby not be solely responsible for the entire assignment.

I know that the **FUNbook of Creative Writing** will motivate your students in class or at home.

Sincerely,

Dennis E. Paul















Name \_\_\_\_\_

[ story title ]

"**W**hen I decided to become the first person to hop across the United States," thought Melvin Noggle, "I don't know what I was thinking!" Melvin Noggle was in Pennsylvania, about 10 miles from Pittsburgh. He was hopping along Highway 24, and he was exhausted! His sister, Nina, was riding behind him in a van with the words "Melvin Noggle Hops Across America" in big red letters.

Each night, Melvin slept inside the van. Nina made sure he drank enough water during the day. Each morning, he had to get up and start hopping. Melvin had been hopping for a month, and they still had a long way to go. "Oh, well," Melvin thought, "at least Pennsylvania is kind of flat." He looked at the highway stretched out in front of him. "At least there aren't any dogs like the ones that started chasing me in New Jersey!"

As he hopped along, he thought he saw a few dark clouds in the distance. [ finish the story ]

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

[ story title ]

Sally Sneed is a scientist. She studies the plants that grow in cold climates. A month ago, Sally received a letter from Dr. Lester Lumpit, a world-famous scientist. The letter said:

“Dear Sally, I have discovered something very strange in the mountains of Antarctica. Would you be interested in coming to Antarctica? I need your help with a new discovery. Sincerely, Dr. Lester Lumpit  
P.S.: Please hurry!”

Sally made plans to go right away. After traveling by jet, she finally reached Antarctica. Dr. Lumpit met her at the airport. They decided to travel to the mountains the next morning to see the new discovery.

As they rode to the mountains on snowmobiles, Dr. Lumpit said, “I am so glad you are here, Sally. I’ve never seen anything like this in all the years I have worked here. I never thought I would see a giant...”

[ finish the story ]

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [ story title ]

**N**elson Noodle is a bus driver for the Bovine City Bus Company. He was driving on the highway and he was thinking, "I wish something exciting would happen."

Suddenly he noticed an old man standing by the side of the road carrying a big package. He was waving one hand to flag down the bus. Nelson stopped the bus. The man had on a huge, gray overcoat and he wore a hat pulled down over his eyes.

"Going to Walrus Falls, mister?" Nelson asked. The man stepped up onto the bus carrying the big package. "That will be \$3.75, please." Nelson held out his hand. The man took out his wallet, gave Nelson the money, and quickly took a seat near the back.

"That's strange," Nelson thought. "He never said a word. I wonder why he is carrying that huge package." [ finish the story ]

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

[ story title ]

The busiest place on Highway 99 is Nino and Gus's Hubcaps Galore. Nino and Gus polish hubcaps and replace lost hubcaps. There are a lot of cars traveling on Highway 99 and some of them lose hubcaps. Nino called to Gus, "Hey Gus, come over here for a minute!"

"What's the matter, Nino?" Gus asked .

"I was polishing a hubcap on this car and it suddenly fell off... and look what was hidden inside!" he answered excitedly.

There on the ground was a little box. It looked like the kind that holds an extra key. Nino reached down and picked it up. Inside was a gold coin.

"Wow! Do you think this belongs to the owner of the car?" Nino asked in a low voice.

"I don't think so," answered Gus. "I remember that the Walrus Falls Museum reported a robbery last month." [ finish the story ]

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

[ story title ]

All the people in Bovine City had heard about the dognappers. They had heard of missing dogs in Walrus Falls. People in Bovine City reported to the police that their dogs were missing, too. After a few hours, the dog owner would receive a phone call. The voice on the phone always said the same thing. "If you want to see your dog again, leave \$500.00 in small bills in locker number 14 at the Bovine City Bus Station." The police investigated, but they could not catch the dognappers.

Ernie Niblit usually left his dog Mylo out in the front yard because he chewed up everything in sight when he was inside the house. Mylo also eats at least three 25-pound bags of dog food every day. When Mylo doesn't get his food, he gets really angry.

Ernie was coming home from work and as he pulled up in front of his house, he couldn't see Mylo. Mylo was missing! [ finish the story ]

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