

CREATIVE WRITING PROMPTS FOR THE CLASSROOM



Character Sketches:

- o Each of the characters in the park scene ("You might write a song / And sing it too loud") tells a story with their body language and facial expressions. Pick a character from the spread and write a story or a poem about who they are and how they got to the park.

 End by describing what the character is thinking in the moment we see depicted on the page.
- o The bug is upset that he cannot find Stu! Write a story about the bug and Stu's relationship. How did they get to know each other? Where did Stu go? How do they get reunited?
- o Much of what we know about the main character of the story is from inferences and observations. Starting with the title page, reread the story looking specifically at the main character. Using the clues you get about him and his life—and your own imagination—write a character description of him.

Five Senses: Find a statement in the book that describes something you've experienced. For example, have you ever smelled a good smell? Seen something strange? Touched something gooey? Touched a bright bug? Write a first-person account of when it happened, how you felt, what caused it to happen, and what happened next.

Sing a Song: Pick a page in *Tomorrow Most Likely.* Using the words, themes, illustrations, and topics as inspiration, write a song to accompany the story that you can sing "too loud."

Monster Tale: Throughout the city, the boy follows a mysterious rope, then finds out it's actually a strange creature's tail! Who is the creature, and what is he doing? Write a story that describes the creature's day leading up to the point that he meets the boy. Then, write what is likely to happen to the creature tomorrow.

"Tomorrow Most Likely...": The author pays close attention to the five senses and includes them all in the book. Where does he talk about sight? Sound? Touch? Taste? Smell? Which sense do you feel he focuses the most on? What does this tell you about the main character? Use evidence to support your statement.

- o Create your own "Tomorrow Most Likely..." poem thinking about your life. Use all five senses at least once!
- o What do you wish will happen tomorrow? Brainstorm a list of things that you look forward to. Then, using your brainstorm, create a list poem of lines with "Tomorrow most likely..." beginning each line.

Life in a City or in Your Neighborhood: This book takes place in a vibrant city full of life. As a class, brainstorm the different sights, smells, flavors, sounds, and feelings that can be experienced in a city. Then, using ideas from the brainstorm, construct a poem as an entire class to represent a myriad of voices and perspectives.

These prompts are created by Kellee Moye, a middle school reading coach and teacher from Orlando, Florida. Kellee is the co-author of the blog *Unleashing Readers*; the author of various teaching guides; an elected member of the 2015–2018 ALAN (Assembly for Literature of Adolescents of NCTE) Board of Directors; the chair of the 2014 Amelia Elizabeth Walden Book Award committee; Hunter's Creek Middle School Teacher of the Year 2017–18; and a member of NCTE, ALAN, and ALA. She can be reached at Kellee.Moye@gmail.com.

