



Writing Prompts
For
Mystery Writers

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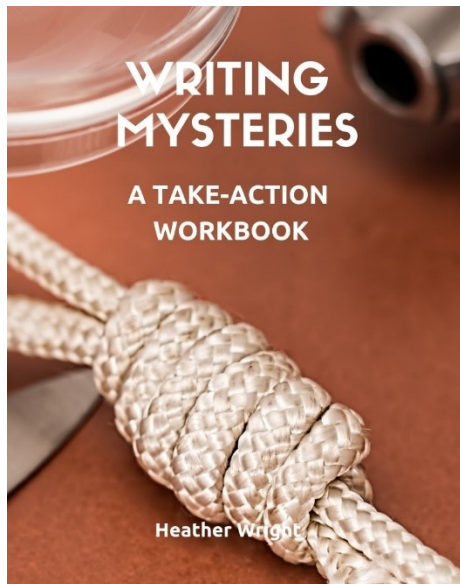
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Writing Prompts for Mystery Writers
Heather Wright
Sageen Publishers

WRITING PROMPTS

The following pages contain 40 writing prompts to help you find a new story idea or a way to bust up writer's block when you're having one of *those* days. Feel free to change the names and genders that I have used in the prompts to suit your story and imagination.

If your writing is stuck, it can help to change locations. Write in a coffee shop or a library or even change where you work in your house or apartment. Getting away from the *desk* can give your creativity a boost. Switching from laptop to pen and paper can sometimes spark inspiration, too. Give it a try!



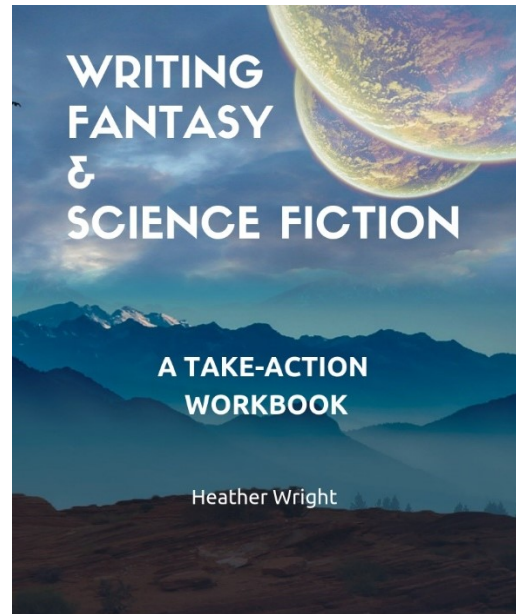
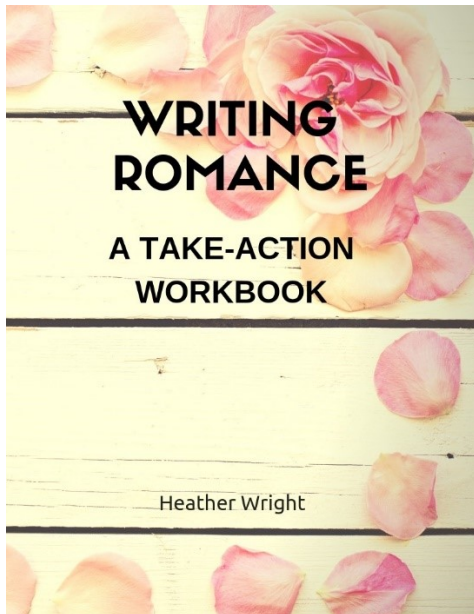
If you're working on a new mystery novel, please check out **Writing Mysteries: A Take-Action Workbook**. You are already doing your research, reading the wonderful books and blogs out there designed to help you write a great mystery novel. You have ideas, notes, reflections, and information that need a home. **This book can be your desk-top companion on your mystery-writing journey.**

Well-designed tools created especially for your genre will guide your creativity and keep you inspired. In this workbook, you can record details about your characters, your plot plans, your notes on setting, and anything else you need to regularly refer to as you create your story. This workbook also includes journal pages where you can reflect on and celebrate your work plus a calendar to track your progress.

Use this book to schedule your writing time, beat writer's block with a little coloring, and best of all, get the words on the page as you've been dreaming them.

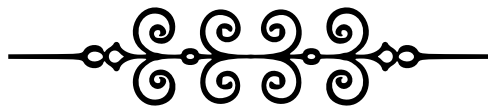
You can find out more about all my books at your online bookseller or on my website: <http://www.wrightingwords.com>.

Other books in the series



[illegible]

1. No actor played dead better than Henry Smythe.



2. "Are you trying to frighten me?"
"Yes."

3. She was pushed.



4. She finally figured out what was wrong about the crash. No sound of brakes.

5. Harriet never could keep a secret.



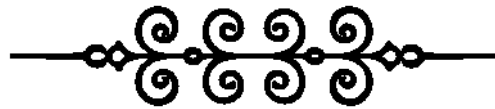
6. The lenses in Henry's glasses were plain glass.

7. She moved his head carefully so she could see his face.



8. Write about a book, a candle, and a knife.

9. The umbrella was dry.



10. Harriet would risk a lot for money.

11. Gunshots sound different in the movies.



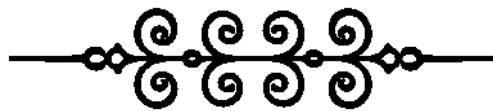
12. Write about something stolen and a bet.

13. Write about a shock, a letter, and money.



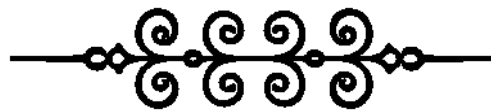
14. Henry wasn't used to lying.

15. Write about a cup of coffee and a threat.



16. Yesterday, you said you wished he were dead.

17. Write about a will, a surprise, and a painting.



18. "Where were you on Tuesday night?"
"I was with you, remember?"

19. Tires screeched. I turned and ran down the alley.



20. Helen deleted the last file.

21. Henry reached for the knife.



22. He'd always had the perfect golf grip. The one he used on the gun wasn't bad either.

23. I thought Play-Doh® was for kids until I saw the body.



24. Even though the umbrella cast a wide shadow, I still wondered if dead skin could sunburn.

25. Henry put down his pen and read the note one more time.



26. Jim promised to check the cottage before I arrived. He would never forget to lock the door.

27. Write about a door and a stain.



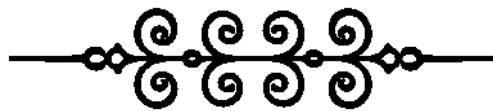
28. Harriet was sure she hadn't seen that car before.

29. "Henry said he was leaving last night."
"That's what he wanted us to think."



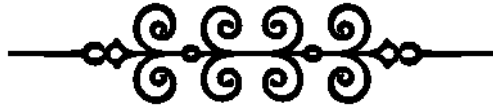
30. I checked. There's no power.

31. Write about a threat and a shrug.



32. My screen was blank except for three sets of numbers and the word *help*.

33. "Wouldn't he call if he were going to be late?"
"Yes, if he could."



34. Write about a window, a noise, and a decision.

35. "How many people did you tell?
"Just Harriet. Just one."



36. Start a story with the sound of sirens.

37. Write about a picnic basket holding a romantic meal—and a gun.



38. Write about a scream.

39. Yesterday, I would have believed you.



40. He had only one chance to get this right.

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This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



I hope you enjoyed these writing prompts for mystery writers

For over 600 more writing prompts, drop by my website at

<http://www.wrightingwords.com>.

About me

I always have more than one work-in-progress. I own too many journals, and I love red licorice, buttered popcorn, and chocolate—not together. I'm grateful for coffee shops where I can go to kickstart stalled projects. I love music, old films, and sing soprano in a choir. (Secret: I leave the really high notes for those who can land them without a squeak.)

I can't imagine my life without writers, watching them become motivated and empowered, and reading the great work that they create. As a coach, I love working one-on-one with writers of all ages. My current clients range in age from 15 to 90.

I am also a freelance writer, writing about everything from orchids to wind turbines to weddings to PVC pipe. I have written for national and local publications, and for educational publishers and industry.

My website, **<http://www.wrightingwords.com>**, hosts my blog and offers links to all my books for writers. You'll also find lots of free resources for writers of all ages and their teachers, too.

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