

Rewrite the ending to your favourite movie

In this project you'll learn some easy steps to get your creative juices flowing and start writing. To kick off the process we've collaborated with writer and slam poetry champion Zohab Khan to share his advice on the creative process.

What you'll need (shopping list)

- Pen
- Paper/writing journals
- A3 paper
- Sticky notes
- Coloured markers

Step 1: Map your story

After choosing a movie/story, decided from what point you'd like to start rewriting. Depending on the length of the movie/story this may be simply a few pages or a few chapters. This is totally up to you. Map the story out to get a better idea of what has happened to the point that you've decided to rewrite. Using an A3 piece of paper brainstorm the characters, concepts, and the conflict that has been in the story so far. Try to write at least one key theme for each character.

Step 2: Pivotal moment map

Determine what the pivotal moment was that resulted in the current ending. Did the protagonist have to make a major decision, or did something major occur, changing the course of the story? Write down two alternate decisions/outcomes that could have taken place at this pivotal moment. Pick your favourite alternate outcome/decision. This is what you will work with.

Step 3: New location

On an A3 piece of paper map out a potential new location for the new ending. Use your five senses to describe in much detail as you can what this new location looks like.

Step 4: Writing time

Now it's time to write. Use your A3 pieces of paper as a point of reference and get writing. If you are stuck on how to start or how to continue writing, "always tell me why". Reread the last two lines previous to the point where you are stuck and determine why the previous interaction occurred. Using this technique, writer's block is easily overcome.

Step 5: Keep up the momentum

Creative writing is a process. Rewriting endings is a great way to exercise your writing skills. And there's plenty of inspiration around – pick new stories, movies and poems to rewrite the ending of or consider rewriting the beginning. Many famous writers have been known to write their endings first and work towards that point.

Zohab's tip

Get creative and use coloured markers and sticky notes in the brainstorming process. Colour stimulates the senses and gets you thinking outside of the box.

Zohab bio

Zohab Khan is an educator, spoken word poet, motivational speaker, didgeridoo player, musician and hip-hop artist. Since 2006, Zohab has been building a formidable career in spoken word poetry, culminating in taking out the title of the Australian Poetry Slam Champion in 2014.

Additional supporting material for the page

Writing brainstorm video

Participant takeaway flyer download