



# ELA Virtual Learning

# **Creative Writing**

April 22, 2020



## Creative Writing

### Lesson: Wed., April 22

**Objective/Learning Target:** Students will further their understanding of the “linked-story” collection genre.



## Creative Writing

**Review:** On Monday, April 20, we watched [Daisy Johnson on Fen](#), her debut story collection. All of Johnson's stories take place in the Fenlands of eastern England. The shared setting (time and place) make this a linked story collection. On Tuesday, April 21st, we selected a [linked story collection](#) to read using Mid-Continent's access to [Overdrive](#).



## Creative Writing

**Read:** Today, let's take 30-45 minutes and read a couple of the stories from the collection you've chosen. As you read, take notes in your journal about characters, setting, and theme. Remember, theme is what the author seems to be saying about a topic--the main idea of a text.



## Creative Writing

**Practice:** Now, in your journal, draw some preliminary conclusions about how the author seems to be connecting her stories. Are characters related? Do they simply live in the same town/village/city? Is there are thematic connection? Write for 10 minutes, considering what you've read so far.



## Creative Writing

**Model:** In “The Book of Grotesques,” the prologue to Sherwood Anderson’s *Winesburg, Ohio*, we learn about a writer who has recorded the lives of the inhabitants of Winesburg, who he calls “grotesques.” The setting connects the characters of the following stories, like Wing Biddlebaum in “Hands,” but so, too, does this idea of grotesques: characters who are twisted or distorted in some way by their experiences or treatment by other people.



## Creative Writing

**Additional Practice:** Create a map of one of the stories you read today. Throughout the semester, we've discussed structure and how working through obstacles (those events or incidents that get in between your character and what they want) creates conflict and propels the story forward. Divide a story you read into those parts (there may be fewer than four) and record details that help it feel vivid and real.



## Creative Writing

### Additional Resources/Practice:

[Top Tips on Creating Setting](#) by Jess Butterworth

[Review of Daisy Johnson's \*Fen\*](#) from the Kenyon Review

[5 Essential Linked Story Collections](#) from Literary Hub

[Overdrive](#) via Mid-Continent Public Library