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SINGAPORE

MASTER THE ART OF WRITING

ENGLISH

COMPOSITIONS

- ★ Introduction on mind-mapping
- ★ Vocabulary list in each composition
- ★ Real-life situation compositions

PRIMARY 3

SAMPLE

FAIRFIELD BOOK PUBLISHERS

Mastering the Arts of Writing
Primary 3 English Compositions

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FAIRFIELD BOOK PUBLISHERS PTE LTD
Blk 10 Ubi Crescent, #05-34 Ubi Techpark (Lobby B),
Singapore 408564
Phone : +65 68482471
Fax : +65 68482470
Email : fbpbooks@yahoo.com.sg
fbpbooks@singnet.com.sg
Website : www.fairfieldbooks.com.sg

Malaysia

FAIRFIELD BOOK PUBLISHERS (M) SDN BHD
52, Jalan Setia Tropika 1/29, Taman Setia Tropika,
81200 Kempas, Johor, Malaysia.
Phone : 07-2448821
Fax : 07-2362908
Email : fbpbook@yahoo.com.my
Website : www.fairfieldbooks.com
www.fairfieldbooks.com.sg

International Business Enquiries and Feedback, Please send Email to **fbpbooks@yahoo.com.sg**

PREFACE

The compositions in this book are designed to stimulate creative thinking. Writing a good composition requires skills such as planning and also requires the use of appropriate vocabulary.

This book has an introduction on mind-mapping and each composition has a list of noteworthy vocabulary. You are encouraged to draw a mind map before proceeding with your composition writing as mind-mapping instils creativity.

There are many pieces that are real-life situations. In addition to actively reading story books, you should be aware of events happening in your daily life as well as incidents happening around you, as these events make good stories.

The model compositions are written to aid students in formulating their ideas. You are encouraged to write your own compositions before reading the model essay.

Continue reading and writing. Your perseverance will pay off!

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Introduction to Mind-mapping in Creative Writing

Mind-mapping is very useful for note-taking and aids in developing ideas. It also helps you to be imaginative and creative when writing compositions. It allows you to arrange your ideas in a purposeful and logical manner. In this way, you can construct a well-structured and original piece of composition.

Steps to constructing a mind map for a story:

1. Write down the main theme of the story in the middle of a piece of paper that is placed horizontally on the table.
2. Using different colours, draw four or more main branches from the central theme. On top of these branches, write down the characteristics/themes that you wish to explore in your story.
3. Extend secondary branches from the primary branches to develop the plot of your story. Remember to write the points on top of the branches.
4. Continue to extend branches at points where you wish to elaborate on your story. Stop only when you have exhausted all your ideas.
5. You can now look at your mind map and write your composition.

Mind-mapping helps you to visualise the events in your story and enables you to plan the plot of your story thoroughly before you start writing. Planning is essential for composition writing as it enables your story to flow and develop smoothly. With practice, you will only need five minutes to construct a mind map before you start writing. Use this method for all compositions that you write.

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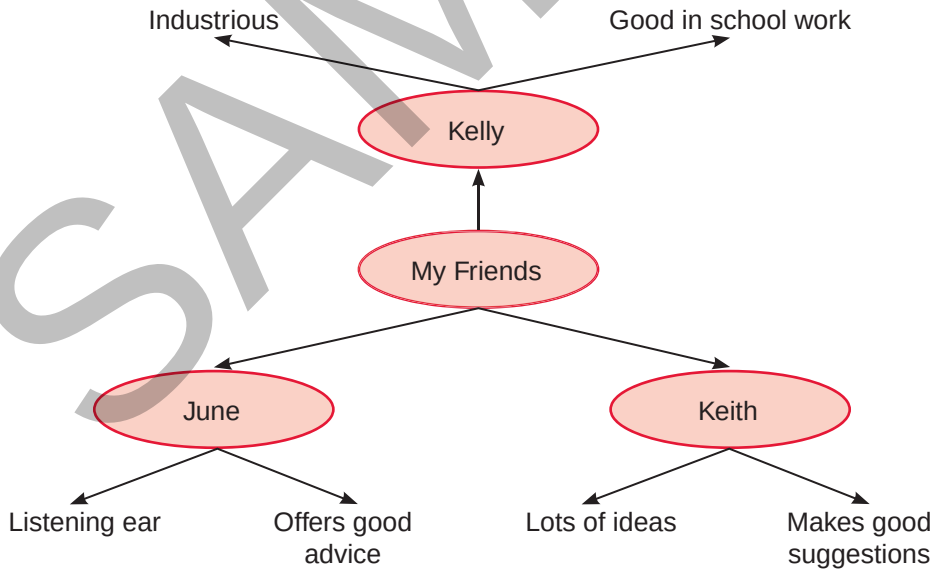
1 My Friends

You have a group of friends who never fail to spice up your life.

Write a composition of at least 100 words to describe them. You may make use of the following points:

- Who your friends are
- Where you met them
- What unique character each of them has
- How you enjoy their company

Before you begin, construct a mind map to help you plan your story.



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Model Composition

I am really fortunate to have three good friends. They are Kelly, June and Keith. Life is never **monotonous** with them around. We met during a holiday camp two years ago and **clicked** instantly. Though we go to different schools, we live near one another and hence, are able to meet up regularly.

Kelly is as **industrious** as a bee. She is always busy doing her homework or revising for examinations. She reads **voraciously** and this explains her **voluminous** general knowledge. The smartest of the four, Kelly, always helps us with our school work and projects.

June is a good listener. Whenever one of us runs into some trouble, we will pour our **woes** to her. She always listens to us patiently, **ponders** about the problem, before giving some sound advice. My heart always feels lighter after a heart-to-heart chat with June.

Keith is a cheerful boy and is full of ideas too. He never fails to come up with **brilliant** ideas whenever we plan for an outing. A food expert, Keith is also the "food guide" whenever we **embark** on a food-hunting trip.

With my three good friends around, it is no wonder why I always appear **jovial** and carefree.

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Noteworthy Vocabulary

1.	**monotonous**	–	boring
2.	**clicked**	–	became good friends
3.	**industrious**	–	hardworking
4.	**voraciously**	–	widely and enthusiastically
5.	**voluminous**	–	enormous
6.	**woes**	–	troubles
7.	**ponders**	–	thinks about
8.	**brilliant**	–	good, excellent
9.	**embark**	–	start
10.	**jovial**	–	cheerful

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10 Overcoming a Phobia

Look at the pictures carefully and write a composition of at least 100 words. You may make use of the following points:



- What Lynn is scared of
- When Lynn saw the cockroach
- What Lynn did to kill the insect
- How Lynn felt after the incident

Before you begin, construct a mind map to help you plan your story.

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Model Composition

Lynn enjoyed her warm bath in the quiet evening. She always **relished** being alone in the house. Her parents had gone to the cinema. Lynn opted out of the trip to allow her parents some **private** moments of their own.

Humming her favourite song, Lynn came out of the bathroom and stepped into the living room, only to be greeted by an unpleasant surprise. "Eeek! Cockroach!" Lynn **shrieked**. Lynn was really terrified of the insect. It was times like this that she wished her father was around. He would get rid of the pest immediately.

Lynn came to a conclusion that she had to solve her own problem. She picked up a can of insecticide and a slipper, and approached the cockroach with much **hesitation**. She sprayed **mercilessly** at the insect till it turned on its back and struggled. Lynn then **slammed** it dead with the slipper.

After **disposing** the dead insect, Lynn felt that she had overcome her **phobia** of meeting a cockroach. She felt proud that she could finally fend for herself.

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Noteworthy Vocabulary

1. **relished** – enjoyed
2. **private** – personal
3. **humming** – singing
4. **shrieked** – screamed
5. **hesitation** – slow to do something because of lack of confidence or fear
6. **mercilessly** – showing no kindness
7. **slammed** – hit
8. **disposing** – throwing away
9. **phobia** – state of being frightened of something

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