

# CREATIVE FREEWRITING ADVENTURE

*A journey into freewriting*



*Stacy Farrell*

# BRING JOY AND EXCITEMENT INTO YOUR STUDENT'S WRITING

*with these simple—yet significant—writing exercises.*

"When the pressure is off, and teens are free to write for fun, their creativity can soar. For families who love to incorporate writing across the curriculum, *Creative Freewriting Adventure* is a winner."

**KIM KAUTZER**

*Creative Director, WriteShop.com*

"*Creative Freewriting Adventure* is sure to get kids writing without complaint! Writing prompts take away the aggravation of figuring out what to write and get kids thinking and, even better, laughing."

**TERRI JOHNSON**

*Editor & Publisher, Knowledge Quest, Inc.*

"What a delight *Creative Freewriting Adventure* is! Instead of simply writing stories, students are asked to become characters themselves and step into the thick of an adventure in progress."

**SHARON WATSON**

*WritingWithSharonWatson.com*

"Stacy Farrell has created a writing resource that even reluctant writers will love! In short, this is one of the best creative writing curriculums I have ever seen for older students!"

**WENDY BILBO HILTON**

*Owner, Hip Homeschool Moms*

"If you are looking for a tool to motivate reluctant middle school and high school writers, *Creative Freewriting Adventure* is it."

**BONNIE ROSE HUDSON**

*WriteBonnieRose.com*



# Creative Freewriting Adventure™

a journey into freewriting

by

Stacy Farrell

Imagine ≈ Capture ≈ Share

# *Creative Freewriting Adventure*

## **Journey into Freewriting**

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DEDICATED WITH LOVE

to my God-sent Aaron and Hur,  
who lend me their strength when my own wanes,  
and to my dear husband and precious sons,  
who give me liberty to pursue His promptings,  
and above all to my Lord and Savior,  
Jesus Christ,  
the One before whom I will stand to give an account  
and experience the reality of His love.



# CONTENTS

REGISTER YOUR RESOURCE.....	7
WELCOME .....	9
FREEWRTING INSTRUCTIONS .....	11
EXERCISE 1 — THALES .....	13
EXERCISE 2 — PYTHAGORAS .....	17
EXERCISE 3 — XENOPHANES.....	21
EXERCISE 4 — DEMOCRITUS.....	25
EXERCISE 5 — THE WISE WOMAN .....	29
EXERCISE 6 — BEASTS.....	35
EXERCISE 7 — THE GALLERY.....	39
EXERCISE 8 — WINGED PONY .....	43
EXERCISE 9 — ETERNITY.....	45
EXERCISE 10 — THE ULTIMATE CHRISTMAS PARTY ...	49
ABOUT THE AUTHOR.....	53
ORDERING .....	59

Writing can be hard work. Good writing most often results from much rewriting, and much rewriting can make a writer weary.

# WELCOME!

Welcome to *Creative Freewriting Adventure*. We're glad you've joined us.

In *Philosophy Adventure*<sup>™</sup> students create and refine one primary writing assignment over the course of several weeks (supported by clear step-by-step instructions and seven writing checklists). We created freewriting exercises to offset their hard work with play.

Using these exercises, we discovered that even students who considered themselves “non-writers” produced surprisingly creative work. Both students and parents were amazed. (Some parents even joined in the fun!)

We are delighted to make this creative freewriting collection available to you. No prep required. Just grab a pen and paper, set a timer, and begin your journey.

## Enjoy!

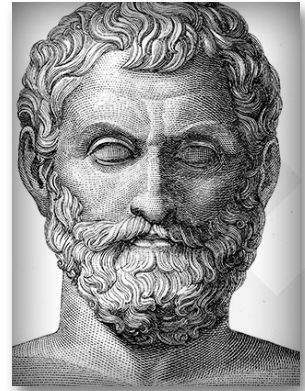
## **CREATIVE FREEWRITING INSTRUCTIONS:**

Set the timer for 15 minutes and invite students to write spontaneously—without the pressure of having to spell or punctuate perfectly. *Let them have fun!* The point of these freewritings is to be playful and simply to delight in the writing process.

*(Note: When we taught Philosophy Adventure in a group setting, students loved to do creative freewritings and read them aloud to each other. It often became their favorite part of class.)*

# THALES

## "Father of Western Philosophy"



**IN 585 BC, THE ANCIENT GREEK PHILOSOPHER THALES** (THAY-lees, c. 624 BC – c. 546 BC) stunned many when he accurately predicted a solar eclipse. According to one Ancient Greek writer, his prediction disrupted fighting between Lydian soldiers and Medes. He recounts the scene at the Battle of Halys:

*[Day] was suddenly turned into night. This change...had been foretold to the Ionians by Thales of Miletus.... When [the soldiers saw it they] ceased from the fighting and were...eager...that peace should be made between them.*



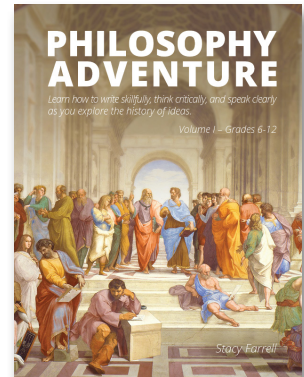
From the description given, it appears the soldiers were fearful their fighting displeased the gods.

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon's inner shadow sweeps across the earth's surface. Its shadow is typically about 10,000 miles long—but only 100 miles wide. Anyone outside that narrow 100-mile-zone will not see the eclipse. Modern astronomy has confirmed that the umbral shadow of a total eclipse passed over the battleground during the Battle of Halys.

So how did Thales make such a stunningly accurate prediction more than 2,500 years ago? No one really knows for sure.

### STAR-GAZER MAKES A SPLASH

Speaking of stars, several ancient writers recount a comical story which involves Thales in a star-gazing accident. One writer presents Thales as an absent-minded professor who, while gazing at the stars, tripped and tumbled into a well. Another has him studying the stars' reflection in the well and leaning too far forward when the incident occurred. There is no way of knowing what really happened, but we won't let that stop us from having a little fun.





## YOUR JOURNEY

14 You live in Miletus, hometown of the world-renowned philosopher Thales. It is late at night, and you are tired, but thirsty, and there is no water left in your house. You carry your water pitcher to the well in the center of town. There you see a disheveled old man, leaning into the well, staring intently down into the water. Suddenly, he loses his balance and tumbles in. What do you do?

## YOUR ASSIGNMENT

Describe the scene and tell us what happens.

### Background:

- What can you tell us about Thales? Do you know him?
- What kind of reputation does he have in your city?
- Is there anything else that you need to share to set up the scene?

### The Dialogue:

- Does Thales cry out when he tumbles?
- Do you speak with him? If so, what do you say?
- Do you speak with anyone else at the well?

### Incorporate your senses into your writing:

- What do you see?
- What do you hear?
- What do you smell?
- What temperature and textures do you encounter?
- Do you get a drink of water? If so, what does it taste like?

You have 15 minutes. Set the timer, turn the page, and **WRITE!**

T H A L E S

## STAR GAZER



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Stacy Farrell worked as a writer, researcher, and consultant before she embarked on her family's homeschooling adventure.

As a freelancer, she wrote a broad range of materials for corporate, Christian, and non-profit clients. She also managed a law firm that specialized in civil rights litigation and constitutional law.

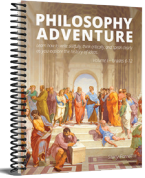
Although her background equipped her to teach communication skills, much study and prayer were required before she was ready to teach critical thinking from a biblical worldview.

Her heartfelt focus was to raise her sons to become “men who understand the times and know what to do” (1 Chronicles 12:32).

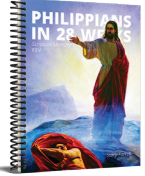
Stacy speaks at homeschool conferences. She publishes articles in leading Christian and homeschool magazines. She loves to write, speak, and teach—but considers her role as wife to Roger and mother to two precious sons to be her greatest privilege and work.



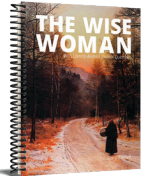
# Home School Adventure Co. Resources



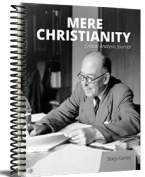
***Philosophy Adventure™—Pre-Socratics***—designed to help students 6th-12th grade cultivate and defend a biblical worldview by teaching them how to write skillfully, think critically, and speak articulately as they explore the history of ideas.



***Philippians in 28 Weeks™***—a simple and painless way to memorize an entire book of Scripture



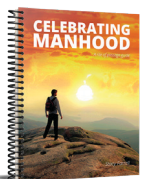
***The Wise Woman with Literary Analysis Journal Questions***—enchants readers while it contrasts the ugliness of pride, selfishness and conceit with the beauty of humility, sacrifice, and compassion.



***Mere Christianity Critical Analysis Journal***—a powerful tool to strengthen critical thinking while cultivating a biblical worldview. A companion to Lewis's classic work, the *Journal* can be used for independent study with teenagers or adults, or as a group study in families, homeschools, co-ops, classrooms, Sunday school, and small groups.



***Creative Freewriting Adventure: a journey into freewriting***—a collection of thought-provoking freewriting exercises designed to inspire creativity and critical thinking, even in previously reluctant writers!



***Celebrating Manhood, a rite of passage guide***—a blueprint for hosting a special evening that will acknowledge your son as an adult and welcome him into the world of men.



***I'd Rather Be Your Mommy***—a sweet bedtime story (and stealth worldview book) that tells your little ones how much you love them. They will love hearing over and over: there is nothing you'd rather be than Mommy!

# The Father of Western Philosophy



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