

The Four Elements Worksheet 13-1

Introduction

You are going to write a short story about adventure and discovery. The focus of this creative writing exercise is descriptive details that activate the senses. There should be a strong sense of place and movement.

Writing Task

There are three requirements. First, finish the first draft in 20 minutes. Second, your story must include four things. Third, each thing must be described in a separate paragraph.

The four things you need to put in the story are:

1. Woods. You are walking in a forest. What is it like? What do you see and feel?
2. Water. You come to water (e.g. a lake, river, ocean). Describe what you see, hear, feel. What do you do?
3. A Key. Describe the key. What do you do with it?
4. A Barrier. At the end of the woods, there is a barrier of some kind (e.g. a door, gate, wall). What is it like? What is on the other side? What do you do about it?

The Four Elements: The Code Worksheet 13-2

Introduction

Now that you have written a creative story, it is time to discover its hidden meaning. Some scientists believe creative writing is a window on the soul. We just need to know the code.

The Code

Read your story to your partner. Your partner will listen and together you both will discuss the four elements:

Here is the code:

- **Woods:** It shows us how you see life now. Is it bright or scary? Happy or sad?
- **Water:** It describes your future life. Is it dark or lovely? Good or bad?
- **A Key:** This describes how you see success. Do you see a big or small key? Is it shiny or dirty? Do you keep it or leave it?
- **Barrier:** This shows us what you think about death and life after death. Do you cross the barrier or runaway? Do you stop?

Do you think the code helps us understand people's true character?