

(These exercise styles were inspired by Jack Remick, Robert Ray, and Geof Miller from their University of Washington Dramatic Writing and Screenwriting Programs)

Exercise Definitions

Listing - is just that... a list. If I ask you to list all the items in your protagonist's glove box then you would start a list: chewing gum wrappers, Bon Jovi tape (broken), wrench, 2 parking tickets, map of Utah... etc. Full sentences not necessary.

Short Sentence - write non-stop in short sentences (no conjunctions or compound sentences). Usually this entails **REPEATING** a phrase. For example: This is a story about love. This is a story about redemption. This is a story about losing one's mind. This is a story about insanity. Etc. Similar to the listing exercise.

Most of the time I use the Short Sentence technique as a "wind up" and keep writing short sentences until an idea takes over and then I just go for it, turning it into an **LSR – see below***

Example: This is a story about love. This is a story about redemption. This is a story about losing one's mind. This is a story about insanity. This is a story about trust because the only person she trusts ends up to be the one person no one told her she could trust and this person is the only one who believe her story and ...

***Long Sentence Release** - This means you write (non-stop) one LONG sentence without punctuation, connecting the ideas with conjunctions such as: and, then, and then, when, so, but, because... For example: In the dream my heroine reaches for her lover but he keeps pulling away and then laughing and laughing at her so she takes off her clothes thinking this will entice him but it only makes his laughter grow until...

CHAINING. This means that the last word in a sentence is the first word in the next sentence. For example: This is a story about love. Love that was found then lost. Lost because the hero did not have the guts to stand up to his father. Father who embarrassed him into obeying his every wish. Etc.

Dialogue - No description at all, just conversation. Be careful *not* to write a monologue. Pay attention to the beat, the "one-two" rhythm. **Action** - no dialogue, just what characters are doing. **Action / Dialogue** - both. No descriptive details.

imaginaryworldscentral.wordpress.com

info@danikadinsmore.com

danikadinsmore.com

twitter: danika_dinsmore