

Go Write Now Course Information

Welcome to my courses.

I have written for most of my adult life. It's now time for me to put something back, to help others by teaching them everything I have learnt along the way.

I have developed courses that guide you and encourage you to write. These courses contain all the information I wish I had known when I was starting out.

My current courses are:

Go Write Now for children

Go Write Now memoir

Go Write Now poetry

You have enquired about writing poetry.

I hope you will find something here that will help you.

Janice

www.gowritenow.nz

"The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance."¹
Aristotle

"Practise any art, music, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, painting, sculpting, poetry, fiction, essays, reportage, no matter how well or how badly, not to get money or fame, but to experience becoming, to find out what's inside you, to make your soul grow."
Kurt Vonnegut

Go Write Now Poetry

This course will suit busy people who need to be able to fit their assignments and their writing around other activities in their lives.

Within the course are modules that give you essential skills and knowledge, but more than half of each course's modules are selected by you, the student. You get to customise your course and choose what aspects of writing you want to develop. I try to fit in with your needs.

Each module has assignments that give you the chance to apply your learning, and all work is assessed and commented on by me, the course creator and tutor.

I am here to support you, encourage you, and to give you confidence.

Before you start

Upfront you complete a questionnaire about your reasons for doing this course, your expectations and motivations. You tell me what writing you have done, why you want to complete the course, and what your goals are. Thus, before you start the course, I will have a good idea of how best to enable you to write on the topic of your choice, and in your own style.

One to one communication with your tutor

During the course you have the opportunity to communicate with me on the phone or through email. I have discovered this to be important as such personal connection allows you to guide your own development.

If you want to continue working with me after the course is completed, this is easily arranged.

You'll be surprised how fast you will learn, how the clarity and originality of your work will improve, and how easily you will develop your own unique writing style. This will assist you to create the sorts of word pictures you want to achieve and significantly increase your chances of publication success if this is your goal.

Don't delay. The sooner you learn, the sooner you will be able to apply your training to all your poetry writing.

The poems are waiting for you to write them.

About your tutor, Janice Marriott

Janice Marriott is an experienced writing teacher, manuscript assessor and mentor. She has taught over 400 students in the last five years. For two years in a row one of her students has won the StoryLines Joy Cowley Award for an unpublished script for a picture book. She is a member of the NZ Association of Manuscript Assessors and The NZ Society of Authors (PEN). She is a course creator of writing courses delivered by the New Zealand Institute of Business Studies. She has been the moderator of Northtec's Creative Writing courses since 2006. She has tutored and mentored for The Creative Hub, Auckland, and Katherine Mansfield House, Wellington. She mentors and assesses manuscripts for NZ Society of Authors. She has been on the selection panel choosing beginning writers for the NZSA mentor programme. She is frequently asked to give poetry workshops for both children and adults.

Her popularity as a tutor rests on her attention to detail, her precise and appropriate comments, her broad knowledge of the publishing industry, and her own career as an internationally successful writer.

“I enjoy equipping people with the skills they need to make their own stories and poems come alive. When a student finally feels they have been able to put into words something dear to their hearts I feel a great deal of satisfaction.”

She has been published in a wide range of genres, by publishers in Europe, America, Australia and New Zealand.

She is a multi-award-winning internationally published writer of novels, plays, poems, gardening books, four books of memoir, short stories, radio plays, songs, TV scripts for Weta Workshops, and literacy texts for educational publishers. Her poems have most recently been published in *The NZ Poetry Anthology 201 and 22019*, *Somewhere a Cleaner 2020* and *More Than A Roof 2021* and in *A Treasury of NZ Poems for Children*

She has had a poetry blog since 2011.

She has been a prizewinner in the Kevin Ireland Poetry Competition.

Janice has a Masters degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and a teaching qualification.

Why do you want to write poetry?

Everyone answers this question differently.

For myself I like writing about the extraordinary in ordinary daily life. I like to see the world through fresh eyes. I would like to share my love of poetry with you.

Writing poetry is always fun. It means we will never be bored. It allows us a glimpse of our own inner worlds and helps us communicate them to other people.

Why do *you* want to write poetry?

This 7-module course is designed to help you create the best poems you can, on the topic and in the style of your choice. I will guide you through the process of writing clearly, freshly, and vividly to captivate your reader. Flexible learning is always the key.

What You Will Learn - Course Overview

The course consists of 3 foundational modules and 4 you pick to suit yourself. The three foundation modules help you to critique your work, structure your material, improve your writing style, and develop a poetry-writing routine. These modules will give you the knowledge and skills to achieve the sort of poetry writing you dream of.

You choose 4 other modules that suit your interests, and allow you to specialize. You complete these modules when the foundations have been laid. This choice encourages you to follow your own path and write what you want to write.

In each module you will be asked to apply your learning by writing. Your work will be read and commented on by your tutor. The most important part of this course isn't contained in the course notes. It is the poetry you will write while you are taking the course, and the comments you will get back from your tutor about your writing. By the end of the course you will have a poetry collection you will be proud of, and the confidence to continue adding to it.

Go Write Now Poetry foundation modules are:

Foundation Module 1

Finding something to write about

This module will give you a clear idea of what it is that you need, or want, to write about. You will become familiar with your own creative spark.

I will show you tools that will give you the confidence to explore your poetic potential.

I hope to encourage you to recognize inspiration and help you to practise writing in a supportive environment.

Foundation Model 2

Poetic forms

This module will show you how to choose the right form for a poem.

It will introduce you to different shapes for poems, like ballads, sonnets, haiku.

It will explain the importance of forms.

It will give you the chance to experiment and read examples of different forms.

Foundation Module 3

Becoming a Poet

This module will show you how to transform yourself into a poet, how to make a place in your world to think, read and write poetry.

It shows you how to built moments of poetry-making into your life, and how to share the resulting poems with others.

You will learn how to develop a routine for creativity, open yourself to the opportunity of a poem happening and decide who you are writing your poems for and how you can reach that audience.

It details how to use the Internet to find other poets to talk to or other poems to read. Most importantly it gives you the opportunity to continue writing poems and sharing them with your tutor.

The modules from which you can pick and mix 4 are as follows:

Module 4

Freshen Up Your Language

This will show you how to write with vividness, using all your senses.
It's a thorough journey through similes, metaphors, and images.
You will see the world differently when you use new words in new ways to describe that world.

Module 5

The sound of a poem

Learn to listen to the rhythm, the sound, the rhyme, and the repetition of words.
This in-depth module contains everything you need to know about rhyme, rhythm patterns, and scansion.
With the aid of many examples I will assist you to make your language sing.

Module 6

Writing poems from your own life

Here you will take ordinary experiences and turn them, twist them, into original, unique poems that convey exactly the meaning you wish to communicate.
There are many examples here of ways to astonish and delight your readers with poems about your world transformed by your own unique perspective.

Module 7

The emotional reservoir

Let me show you how to turn a feeling into a poem.
Master the skills to enable you to convey powerful feelings in your writing.
Write love poems, or descriptions of places of great importance.
Learn to share your feelings with your reader.

Module 8

More playing with words

Because words are a poet's tools, this is another module that emphasizes how to choose the right word.
It offers more practice with metaphors, rhythm, rhyme, alliteration, assonance, and euphony.
It offers many unforgettable examples.

Module 9

Humorous poems

No course of mine is ever complete without an opportunity to write humour.
Here are many examples of different humour styles and topics.
All of them show you how you can put a smile on a reader's face by writing something fresh, new, and enjoyable.

Module 10

Writing poems for children

Many people want to write poems for or about children or grandchildren.
Here is your opportunity to do this.
Learn how to capture those fleeting moments of childhood.
Create poems as gifts.
Learn to focus on just that one most telling detail.
Catch that child in the butterfly net of a poem before the young one runs away into adulthood.

Module 11

Critiquing your poem

Learn how to improve and edit your poems.
I provide useful checklists to help you write the best poem you can.
See how others define poetry.
Be inspired by great poets' ideas of what poetry should be.

Module 12

How to publish your poems.

Here you will find out about disseminating your poems.
Whether you want to create a book, an electronic file, a blog, I will show you how to do this.
There is also information about entering poetry competitions, joining poetry groups either online or in person, and participating in an open mic night or a poetry reading.

Course Delivery

Modules are supplied as pdfs via email one at a time so you concentrate on that one discipline.

My students, who are people with busy lives, have found this to be the ideal way to achieve their best work.

It means you put your energy into one area, concentrate, focus, and then move on to the next.

In each module you will be asked to apply your learning by writing. You need to allow for between two to eight hours to complete these assignments.

The time taken is often a balance between familiarity with the topic, other responsibilities, and the effort you put in.

These assignments are not mere technical exercises.

They will all be opportunities for you to expand and hone your writing skills and will become part of your portfolio of creative work.

As with any skill, practice is an essential part of success.

By the end of the course you will have a body of work you will be proud of, and the confidence to continue with it.

The most important part of this course is the work that you will write while you are taking the course, and the comments you will receive from your tutor. All your writing during the course will be read and commented on by me, either on your electronic file itself or in a separate letter, or both.

The close and careful reading of your work, and the specific comments and suggestions you will receive, will help you improve your skills and motivate you to produce your best writing.

Endorsement

"The Poetry Writing course is the most rewarding of the many courses I have done."

Frances Townsend

"And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom."

Anais Nin

Registration Info

Students are advised to do the whole course in order to get the full advantages from their relationship with their tutor, and in order to learn everything there is to know that will improve any subsequent writing they do.

Each of the foundation modules builds on the lessons learnt in the prior module.

If you are unable to take the full course, however, it can be arranged for you to do a section of it. Talk to me about this possibility.

I hope you will join me and, by doing so, devote some of your precious time to developing your talent to its full potential.

Find information regarding course fees by emailing me.

Click here:
janice@gowritenow.nz

There is no time like the present to develop new skills.

Give yourself this gift.

Become a poet.

Janice