2026 WILD WORDS: Nonfiction

Nonfiction shares facts and information about the real world. It can be about any topic, from wild animals to social media to Vikings. If you're writing about something that really happened or really exists, it is nonfiction. Some examples are personal essays, memoir (a true story about your life), biographies, reviews, diaries/journals, historical events, travel writing, self-help, science, and journalism. Give nonfiction a try with the writing prompts below—just remember to keep it real:

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* Write a memoir of your life using only 6 words. Try it with 15 words. Try it with 100 words.

* Write about three things you cannot live without. Why are these things so important to you?

* Write a review of something—a book, a song, a restaurant, a sporting event, or a work of art. What do you like about it? What could be improved? Why might other people want (or not want) to experience it?

* Describe a place you travel to often. What does it look like? What activities do you do there?

* What do you think people might want to know about a week in the life of a teen? Keep a journal for one week, with an entry each day.

* Write about a time you stood up for someone else. How did the experience change you or the other person?

* Pick a current event and give us all of the facts: Who, what, when, where, why?

* Think of a time you were struggling. Describe how you got help or changed your situation so that someone else who is struggling could give it a try.

* Do an experiment, then write down everything about it—your hypothesis, what you did, what the results were, and what it all means.

* Think about a talent or skill you have. Write an instruction manual about it.