

“A Tale of Two Socks” Creative Writing Grades 9-12

For this story, you will be writing a creative narrative about a pair of lost socks during the era of the military laundresses. You will be writing the story from the perspective of the socks (a first-sock narrative), including specific details about the socks’ adventures that tie it to the time period of the 1800s. Perhaps your socks feel like a lost dog and are distressed about being lost. Or perhaps your socks are happy to be free of the pressures of marching and drilling and excited to be liberated!

Step 1:

Keep the elements of a short story in mind:

- Your story should have a clear beginning, middle and ending.
- Use MS Word to write your story which should be between 500 and 15,000 words in length.
- Remember to consider the following :
 - Setting: Gives the reader a sense of the **where** and **when** of the story.
 - Characters: Characters and people who seem real to the reader.
 - Plot: Reveal what is happening through description of a series of events.
 - exposition – sets the stage for the story
 - conflict – the problem needing resolution
 - rising action – series of events or conflicts that advance the plot and engage the reader
 - climax – the highest point of conflict
 - falling action – events after the climax
 - resolution – the wrap up and conclusion of the story
 - Theme: The message that the story communicates.
 - Point of View: What the writer sees and experiences from his/her perspective.

Step 2:

Watch “The Forgotten Heroes of Soap Suds Row” on YouTube. While watching the video, be thinking about your short story and take notes on details that you may want to include that will give your story accurate historical context.

Step 3:

Happy writing!