

A writing activity from

Grimm & Co



Adventure Writing: Dynamic Duos

You will need: something to write with (probably a pen or pencil and paper, maybe typed), and optionally something to draw with (coloured pencils, crayons, felt tips...)

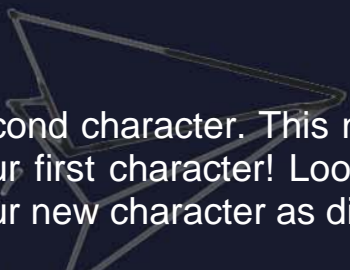
Step one: we're working on adventure stories because we want to support you to create wonderful tales that you could submit to the [Wilbur Smith: Author of Tomorrow](#) competition: an annual writing contest, open to children and young people from across the world!

To create an epic adventure story, we need some intriguing characters to go on this adventure! You're going to start by inventing a main character – or protagonist – for your story. This main character can be anyone you want, as long as it's an original, brand new characters (so no Indiana Jones, Hermione Granger, or Valkyrie Cain!).

Step two: jot down your thoughts on: your character's *age*; *where they come from*; their *appearance* (what they look like, the clothes they wear, the accessories they carry, and any distinguishing features); their *personality* (how would you describe their character? What mood are they normally in?); *what they care about most*; and any *special skills* they have.

Step three: now you've thought about these things, you can create a full character profile! This could either be a written description, or a labelled drawing of your character full of detailed annotations.

Step four: now you've got your first character, you need to create a



second character. This new character needs to be the total opposite of your first character! Look at your first character's attributes, and make your new character as different as possible!

So, if your first character's skill was 'map reading', your second character might be constantly getting lost! If your first character was 'very strong', your second character could be small and shrimpy!

Create a second character profile, either through a written description or an annotated drawing, to depict a second character who's really, really different from your first character – the total opposite, in fact!

Step five: adventure stories often feature dynamic duos: characters who are very different from each other, but get thrown together and end up taking on the adventure's trials and tribulations as a team! Examples of this are Shrek and Donkey in *Shrek*, Marlin and Dory in *Finding Nemo*, and Moana and Maui in *Moana*. Can you think of any others?

Why do your two characters get thrown together? How do they first meet? How do they react to each other when they do? And why is it that they end up staying together, instead of going their separate ways? What motivates them to not split up?

Write a description your two characters' first meeting. This could be the start of your adventure story!

Step six: Share your writing with us!

If you're a member of one of our out-of-school writing groups, you should upload your work to your Seesaw journal.

If you're accessing this activity independently, or through your school, we'd still love to share in the amazing writing you've created! You can post your work on social media, tagging us @GrimmAndCo, or email your work to grimmapothecary@gmail.com. Happy writing!