

## *mini • write: re • act/write/read*

Choosing either a **reaction** to the provided term, image, selected quotes, one of the prompts below, or your current “writers are readers” selection, and **write for 20 minutes**. Please note, that if none of the options provided inspires you to write, then you may **read** from your “writers are readers” selection but remember that you must have a minimum of three free writes per five-day week for submission selection.

### **betray** /to be unfaithful in guarding, maintaining, or fulfilling

*“It is easier to forgive an enemy than to forgive a friend.”*

— William Blake, *UK poet*

*“For there to be betrayal, there would have to have been trust first.”*

— Suzanne Collins, *The Hunger Games*

*“Everyone suffers at least one bad betrayal in their lifetime. It’s what unites us. The trick is not to let it destroy your trust in others when it happens.”*

— Sherrilyn Kenyon, *Invincible*



- *Many people believe that it is better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all. Tell about an experience that shows this statement to be true (or false). (289)*
- *Most people believe that there are certain things worth fighting for. Tell about a time when you fought for something you believed in. (290).*
- *Movies and literature often deal with the theme of “counting your blessings.” Tell about an experience that led you to appreciate someone or something you’d taken for granted. (292)*

*Source: 501 Writing Prompts, Learning Express, 2003.*

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## daily•T/V: terminology/vocabulary

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- **climax:** the highest point of tension in a narrative, typically when the conflict between the protagonist and the antagonist reaches its zenith.
- **degree of intimacy :** a standard that measure the extent of awareness and connection between characters; it shows an implicit or explicit recognition between characters of status and recognition available as well to the readers. Shared experience can lead to greater intimacy between characters; likewise characters can be suspicious of others who try to be more intimate before there is a connection.
- **denouement :** a term signaling an arrival at a stage in a story directly before the resolution begins; the unknotting of the complications and obstacles, yet will it be to the satisfaction of the characters?

*Source: The Fiction Writer's Handbook by Shelly Lowenkopf*

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- **fatuous:** foolish; silly; simple-minded; not intellectual.
- **vindictive:** revengeful; spiteful; wanting to hurt or harm.
- **meticulous:** giving great attention to details ; mindful of details.
- **catharsis:** purification; purgation; cleansing of emotions.
- **insatiable:** quenchless; incapable of being satisfied.

*Source: Conry's College Vocabulary List*

## betray / be-tray / bih-trey

Betrayal, at its core, is one of the most painful experiences as it can involve the breaking of the social contract in a society (the weakest form with the least personal impact) to that between emotionally involved individuals (the strongest and most damaging form).

Roger L. Jackson, author of the article, The Sense and Sensibility of Betrayal: Discovering the Meaning of Treachery Through Jane Austen, writes that "there has been surprisingly little written about what we even mean by the term". In psychology, practitioners describe betrayal as the breaking of a social contract; however, critics of this approach claim that the term social contract does not accurately reflect the conditions and motivations for, and effects of, betrayal. Philosophers Judith Shklar and Peter Johnson, authors of The Ambiguities of Betrayal and Frames of Deceit respectively, contend that while no clear definition of betrayal is available, betrayal is more effectively understood through literature.<sup>[1]</sup>

AI researcher Selmer Bringsjord made betrayal the core of a storytelling program BRUTUS. In Artificial Intelligence and Literary Creativity: Inside the Mind of BRUTUS, a Storytelling Machine, betrayal is defined operationally in computer language as basically as knowingly thwarting another out of something that ought to occur.

Jackson explains why a clear definition is needed:

*Betrayal is both a "people" problem and a philosopher's problem. Philosophers should be able to clarify the concept of betrayal, compare and contrast it with other moral concepts, and critically assess betrayal situations. At the practical level people should be able to make honest sense of betrayal and also to temper its consequences: to handle it, not be assaulted by it. What we need is a conceptually clear account of betrayal that differentiates between genuine and merely perceived betrayal, and which also provides systematic guidance for the assessment of alleged betrayal in real life.*

Ben-Yehuda's 2001 work ("Betrayals and Treason Violations of Trust and Loyalty" Westview Press) framed all forms of betrayals and treason under a unifying analytical framework using loyalty, trust and moral boundaries as explanatory tools.

An act of betrayal creates a signature constellation, in both its victims and its perpetrators, of negative behaviours, thoughts, and feelings. The interactions are complex. The victims exhibit anger and confusion, and demand atonement from the perpetrator; who in turn may experience guilt or shame, and exhibit remorse. If, after the perpetrator has exhibited remorse or apologized, the victim continues to express anger, this may in turn cause the perpetrator to become defensive, and angry in turn. Forgiveness of betrayal is exhibited by the victim foregoing the demands for atonement and retribution; and is only complete where the victim does not continue to remind the perpetrator of the act, to demand apologies, or to review the incident again and again.

