# Write the story by putting yourselves into someone else's shoes



This is a more complicated activity than the previous one. You should get out of your own character and your own way of thinking and get into another person. Take on that person's characteristics and think like him. But before that you have to make choices... We are going to discuss your choices in the forum for this module. So, you have to be prepared to justify them.

## So, what you have to do step by step...

1<sup>st</sup> step: read the basics about role the playing technique

 $2^{nd}$  step: read the scenario and choose 3 persons to travel with you. You have to make these choices as a group, so you have to discuss with your team and agree on them.

 $3^{rd}$  step: you have to choose one of the travelers who won't travel with you and write his/her story (what happened to him/her).

#### 1. Role-play technique

We use this technique to stimulate different kinds of thinking, or try something different in general, explore how to implement ideas etc.

How to use it

Pick a person for any reason (someone you like, or admire, someone who is related with a problem you have, someone who has radically different ideas etc). Get into his/her character: think their thoughts and feel what he/she feels. Then act like that person would act in the situation you explore. Getting into another character also legitimises thinking differently. You can do it with a team. Everyone can have different role.

And...don't forget to have fun if you feel so!!!

### 2. The scenario



You board a train to travel for a week from Lisbon to Moscow. You travel in a wagon with four beds and you have to share it with three others. Which of the following travelers would you prefer to share the wagon?

#### The other travelers

- 1. A Serbian soldier from Bosnia.
- 2. An obese Swiss financier.
- 3. An Italian disc jockey that looks rich.
- 4. An African woman who sells leather.
- 5. A young artist, AIDS carrier.
- 6. A gypsy from Hungary just released from prison.
- 7. A nationalist shepherd who travels frequently to Russia.
- 8. A German rapper living an alternative life.
- 9. An Austrian blind accordionist.
- 10. A Ukrainian student who does not want to return home.
- 11. A middle-aged Romanian woman who has no visa and holds in her arms a one year child.
- 12. A Dutch hard feminist woman.
- 13. A drunken skinhead from Sweden.
- 14. A boxer from Belfast on the way to the final of the soccer team.
- 15. A Polish prostitute from Berlin.
- 16. A French farmer who only speaks French and holds a basket with a strong French cheese.
- 17. A Kurdish refugee who lives in Germany and returns from Libya.

## 3. Tools

For collaborative creative writing we suggest you to use google docs. This is enough for your assignment.

#### **Google docs**



Google Docs is a suite of products that lets you create different kinds of online documents, share them with other people, work on them in real time with other people, and store your documents and your other files -- all online, and all for free. You can print them; download them to your computer or just save them in the "cloud". With an Internet connection, you can access your documents and files from any computer, anywhere in the world. More information: http://support.google.com/docs/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=49008

If you want to do something more complicated with your students we suggest you some tools for writing and presenting your stories in a fascinating way.

#### Storybird



With this tool you can make, share, read and print short stories. It Encourages literary exploration & artsy fun. http://storybird.com/

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## **Comic Strip Creator**



Comic Strip Creator is self publishing software that allows you to create and export your own comic strips in jpg format.

http://www.comicstripcreator.org/