Thank you for helping with this workshop. We have put together some guidelines on how you could best support ESOL learners who are new to creative writing, some of whom may have little or no experience writing in English.

* Please read the workshop outline before you start so you are familiar with the activities.
* It would be helpful if you do part of the activity alongside the learners you are supporting to demonstrate what they could do.
* Be supportive but don’t be tempted to be too helpful by making suggestions – ideas need to come from the learners.
* Discuss what the learner/s want to write. It will help them to formulate ideas and call to mind the language / vocabulary they already know, as well as learn new words they could use.
* Do more listening than speaking. Give the learner/s you are supporting time to think.
* Let learners write in their own language if they prefer to but work with them to produce an English version to go alongside.
* If you are writing for someone as a scribe, and are unsure what they are trying to say, ask for clarification with questions like:
- Can you say/explain a bit more?
- Do you mean…..?
Try not to put words in their mouths.
* If the workshop has been organised as a carousel of activities, ask learners to leave their writing on the table for others to read, but let them take it with them if they insist.