Eight Great Questions that Encourage Unique Writing Approaches

1. What might happen if you reversed your story or the sequence of your report? Could it start at the end? Right in the middle?

2. What might happen if you told the story or report from someone else’s perspective? Could it be someone VERY minor who tells the story? Even a fly on the wall?

3. What if you started the story right in the middle of the best part, or you began your report with the most unusual fact you could find?

4. What if you changed your story or report into an unexpected genre of writing: a recipe, a lost and found or want ad, a letter to the editor, a series of multiple choice test questions, a top 10 list, a fable, a children’s story, a play, etc.

5. What unique comparison (simile or metaphor) might you use to base the entire story or report on?

6. What would happen if you used a sensory detail for all five senses at five strategic places in your story or report?

7. What kind of riddle might you hide in your paper for an observant reader to discover? An acrostic sentence**? A sausage sentence**?

8. What letter, word, or part of speech might you try to NEVER use (not even once) in your rough draft?

**See page 112 and page 113 of the NNWP’s Trait guide for explanations of these!