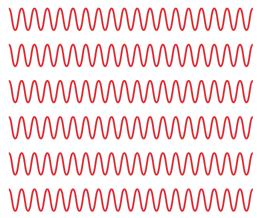


telephonic Youth

WORKSHOP: CREATIVE WRITING



BTHeritage & Archives



INSPIRED BY THE MEMORIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S PHONE CULTURES FROM THE 80S AND 90S.

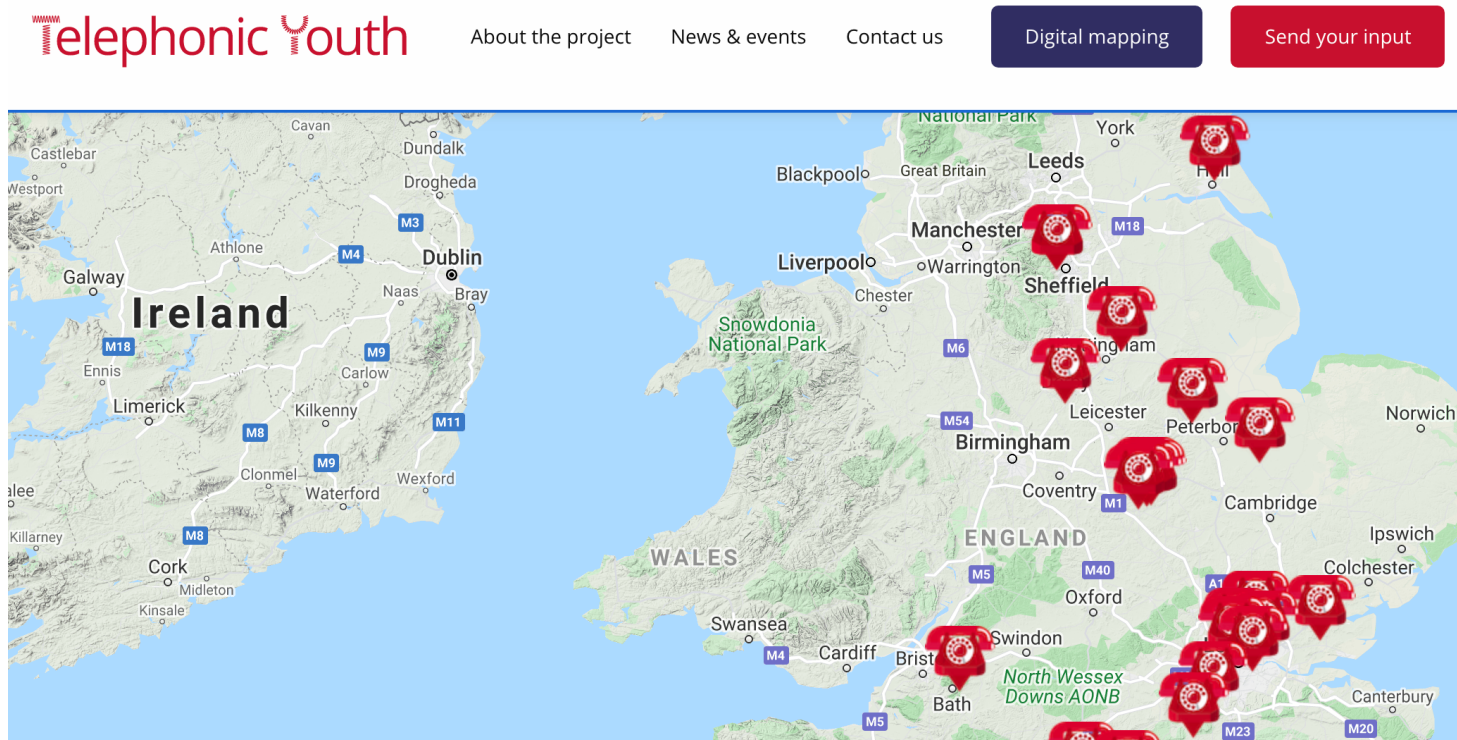


Using one of the submitted memories of phone culture as inspiration, you are to compose a creative writing piece of about 500-words. The structure can be of your choosing; consider a short story, a newspaper article, or a poem. The chosen memory could act as a catalyst or be embedded into the piece.



Accessing Memories

To access one of the memories, please visit www.telephonicyouth.co.uk and click the 'Digital Mapping' button. There you can browse the range of fascinating stories that have been shared. Choose one, and start creating your story.



Perspective: Who's telling the story?

FIRST PERSON

The main character is telling story. Consider how the memory could be extended, question what may have occurred before or after the event, be imaginative.

KEYWORDS

I, me, we, my, our, ours.

SECOND PERSON

The narrator or author is telling the story to the reader. Consider how you could be part of the story but not the main character recalling the event.

KEYWORDS

You, your, yours.

THIRD PERSON

The narrator or author is telling the story, but is not part of it. This style could be used as a newspaper article, where you use the memory as a quote.

KEYWORDS

They, them, theirs, he, she, it.



Set the scene: Where does it take place?

Consider where the story is taking place, three of the memories take place in a domestic setting, so how can you describe the home? The other three memories have external environments which could be explored further to extend the richness of the narrative.

- Does the scene take place indoors or outside?
- Is it daytime or nighttime?
- How does the space affect the characters' movements?
- Does the space serve a particular role in the story?
- How are the characters positioned in the space?
- What other objects are present in the space?



The character: Who are they?

Who is the main character or characters? Does their age, height, weight, ethnicity, hair colour, etc play an important role in the story? Consider describing more than their physical characteristics, how could you describe their personality? Do they have any quirks that are revealed in the memories that could be exploited to further your story?

- What are their names? Consider names from the '80s and '90s.
- How old are they, are they recalling a childhood memory?
- Create a character you could relate to, are they likable?
- What are the goals of the main character, and how can you help them to achieve them?
- Are they the protagonist or the antagonist?
- What is their relationship to the telephone?



Objects: Describing the phone?

As the main focus of these stories will be a telephone and or phonebox, how are you going to describe it to the reader? Today, when the word 'phone' is mentioned, we instantly think of a mobile phone. Consider how you are going to physically describe the object, consider the feel of the material, the weight of it, or even the smell (if it is an outside payphone).

- Is the phone cordless? (If not, is it knotted?)
- Is it a rotary or a keypad dial?
- If it is a payphone, is it in a phonebox or an open-style hood?
- If it is a payphone, how much does the call cost and how do you pay?
- Is there a phonebook?
- What do the dial tones sound like? (are there any static noises?)



Language: Some helpful rules and hints

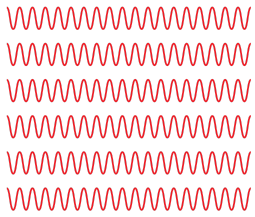
- Use strong nouns and verbs for effect, such as
- Be descriptive by using adjectives and adverbs
- Use literary features to evoke imagery and effect, such as alliterations, onomatopoeia, personification, anthropomorphism, etc.
- Consider the length of your sentences; short sentences can build suspense and long sentences can provide more detail.
- Vary the use of short, long, compound, simple and complex sentences.

MOST IMPORTANT RULE, HAVE FUN AND BE IMAGINATIVE.



Consider using the images below to evoke some ideas, how would you describe the scenes, people, and the phones?





CREDITS & DISCLAIMER

Images

All images used in this workshop material have been obtained from pexels.com

Memories

All memories were submitted to the Telephonic Youth website (<https://telephonicyouth.co.uk>), and were subject to the website's 'Terms and Conditions of Use'. No personal data has been included in this workshop material, and any creative writing material produced will be entirely fictitious and have no correlation to the original source material.

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