# WRITING FOLIO

## WHOM WOULD YOU CHOOSE AS A FRIEND ?

J**ohn** has been in trouble with the police (housebreaking and shoplifting “for fun”) He’s on probation but is keeping himself out of trouble as he “wants to do better than some of my mates. He still sees, sometimes, some of the old “gang” he used to hang around with, but he says, he’d like to drop them if he could make some new friends. All they do, he says, is hoon around in beat-up cars, harass girls and get drunk. He finds this boring now. He lives with his mother, who was divorced five year ago, and his new step-father whom he dislikes. He likes heavy metal music and spends a lot of time in his room, playing his guitar. He reads a bit – mainly horror novels and comics. He’d like to become a kindergarten teacher as he likes little kids but fears that his schoolwork isn’t good enough to get him the grades he’s need for this. He spends most nights just listening to music and flicking through old comics and stays up late so that he has trouble getting up in the morning. He doesn’t talk much )(which is why, he says, he has trouble making new friends) and his mother says he is withdrawn. He is loud, however, when he argues with his stepfather.

A**lice** is on the dole. She left school after Year 10 (and now regrets this). She’s just dropped her boyfriend because, she says, he took her for granted. She says she used to be boy-crazy (and had a “reputation” among the boys at school) but is now going to be more choosy and not depend on guys so much. She likes parties and discos and spends most of her money on clothes. However, she spends a lot of time looking for jobs – this is one reason she has to look “well-dressed” she says. She is thinking of doing a TAFE course in hotel management or hospitality, as, she says, she has got a “good personality” and likes meeting new people. She is a very talkative person (some friends say she gossips too much and can’t keep secrets). She reads a lot of romance novels, and is “a bit addicted” to soap operas on TV. She says she gets on well with both her parents except when they complain about her having too many noisy friends around the house. Her teachers used to complain, too, that she was too chatty and giggly in class.

Dominic likes going on long bike rides and fishing – he enjoys wildlife. He says he can be quite happy with his own company but still likes going out with friends – mainly to movies on the weekends. He likes keeping fit – not by going to gym or weight-lifting, just doing a lot of riding and walking. He has some very good friends at school who like him because he always listens to them and their problems and can be trusted. Also, he has a good sense of humour. He does very well at school and helps his friends with their work. Dominic is pretty sure that he is gay but he keeps this a secret and no one can tell his is. It doesn’t bother him but he’s still not sure how his friends would react. He’d like a friend he could be honest with about his sexuality. He doesn’t get on well with his father who is often drunk and abusive and he wants to get out of home into a flat as soon as possible – so he can have peace and also listen to rap music as loudly as he likes. He says he’d be able to look after himself well as he is a good cook and already cooks meals for himself and his mother when his father is getting drunk at the pub - ,mainly pasta. He reads a lot and is a soccer fan and enjoys serious discussions with his friends. He’d like to become an engineer or architect.

R**uth** is a quiet but assertive girl with strong opinions about the environment and politics. She says she often argues with the boys in her class at school because, she says, they try to dominate the lessons and put down girls who speak up. She doesn’t feel hurt when they call her names (frigid” etc.) but she gets angry with their “stupid sexism”. However, she has two close male friends and they often go out together – to films and picnics. She would like to become a pilot or a marine biologist ... or maybe a social welfare worker as she worries about the people who are badly off and suffering in our society. She does well at school and some ofher classmates say she is “too serious”. She says she’ll never become a housewife like her mother who, she says, is a “slave to my father”. She hates cooking. She does like dancing and making her own clothes – she likes to wear different things from what everyone else is wearing. Even though she is critical of her mother and father (“their lifestyle”), she loves both very much. She has a crush on a Year 12 boy but no one knows – she’d be too scared to tell him and “if the word got round, I’d be hassled because so many kids my age are hopeless gossips”.

1. Name the person you would like to be your friend and explain why.
2. Name the person you would least like to have as a friend and explain why.
3. Discuss your choices / reasons in a group and try to arrive at a consensus.

### Gangs and Groups

1a. Describe your group of friends

at school explaining how you are

similar, your common interests and

how you spend your time together

b. Do you see each other outside your

school?

c. What differences are there between you?

ie. Personalities, hobbies and beliefs.

2. How is your group of friends different

from other groups or types of kids you

see around your school? http://img.dailymail.co.uk/i/pix/2007/03\_02/HoodieGangPA\_468x318.jpg

3. What type of person do you feel would

NOT fit in with your friendship group

and why?

4a. What is the best thing about having a friend or friends?

b. Why is it important for many kids ‘*to belong to the crowd?’*

c. Why do some kids find it difficult to belong to a group?

5a. What aspects of a kid are most admired at your age?

b. What aspects would be ridiculed at your age?



6a. The Macquarie Dictionary defines a gang as:-

* A band or group
* A group of persons working together
* A group of persons usually disreputable, violent or criminal,
* associated for a particular purpose.

You can see that if you belong to a gang it does not necessarily mean that you are rough, bad or a delinquent.

7a. If you were the leader of a gang what rules would it have?

b. How would you choose kids to belong to your gang?

c. What would your gang be called?

d. How often would you meet?

e. What insignia would identify your gang?

Source: varioushairstyles.com f. Would you initiate new members? If so, how?

8. Describe a member of a really tough gang. The person may be male or female.

Mention his / her clothing, hairstyle, accessories, eg. Tattoos, jewellery, expression, activities / behaviour.

Make the description vivid and real. Base it on someone you have seen or know if you can?

Government Health Warning

**music**

ORIGINAL ROCK BAND DESPERATELY NEEDS

GUITARIST & DRUMMER

VOCAL ABILITY A MUST

DATES FOR GIGS

1. So you want to get a band happening? Easier said than done, but hey, you’re young, keen

RAW

HI - FI

SOURCE: INPRESS MAGAZINE

Tickets on sale

this week!

and talented. What do you do?

Write an advertisement to place in the local newspaper.

Remember it costs so keep your ad brief.

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| **Musicians wanted** |  |  |  | |  |
| Bassist required to complete originals band. We are an outfit with a strong songwriter and are determined to work hard and have fun. Our influences include Crowded House. You Am I, Foo Fighters, Radiohead, Jeff Buckley, The Police.  Phone Dave 1234\*\*\*\*\* |  |  |  | | CLASSIFIEDS  25 cents PER WORD + GST  Please add 10%to total cost to cover GST |
|  |  |  |  | | I have enclosed $........................ |
|  |  |  |  | |  |
|  | | | |  | **Guitarist wanted** for No Idea. Melbourne punk band with record deal and management. New CD due out soon. American tour in the future. Must be committed. Contact Peter 9\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* |
| **Female bass player/backing vocalist & drummer required**  for amateur punk band. Influences: The Donnas, Black Flag.  Contact Paul. Email: [k\*\*\*\*\*\*\*@hotmail.com](mailto:k*******@hotmail.com) Phone: 9\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* | | | |  |

1. Prepare a series of questions for interviewing prospective band members.

1. You form a band. What are you called? What type of music do you play?

Prepare a leaflet to advertise your first gig.

1. Prepare a Media Release and a biography for each band member.



**live** in

concert

**ARIA**

*Award*

*Winner*

The contemporary genius of

**CMAA**

*Female*

*Vocalist*

*of the Year*

*Album*

*of the Year*

.

4. Prepare a Media Release and a

Biography for each band member

5. Design a cover for your first demo CD.

**PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL**

FRIDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 8PM

**TICKETS TEL: 9536 1166**



6. Rehearsals begin.

Write the lyrics to your first hit song.

(WHAT’S THE STORY) MORNING GLORY?

All your dreams are made

When you’re chained to the mirror and the razor blade

Today’s the day that all the world will see

Another sunny afternoon

Walking to the sound of my favourite tune

Tomorrow never knows what it doesn’t know too soon

(Noel Gallagher, Sony Music Publishing)

**Fat BoySlim**

New single “Sunset

(Bird of Prey)”

<http://991.com/newGallery/Fatboy-Slim->

Sunset-Bird-Of-Pr-492751.jpg

1. Write a review of your first gig or demo CD

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| DALLAS CRANE  Twentyfour Seven (Independent)  http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Twentyfourseven.jpgdallas crane cd | | |
| dallas craneNobbing one of the catchiest sayings  Around at the moment for their album title. Dallas Crane has produced on equally catchy album.  With their feet firmly set on Aussie rock, they’ve embraced a diversity of musical elements ranging from the depth of blues to the up-tempo rhythms of rock and post-punk. The innovative mixture of organ, string instruments and vocal harmonies, harkens back to deep-seated influences such as Tom Waits and Nick Cave.  The first track *Sit On My Knee* has been well received. With airplay on Triple J. Meal hooks and rocking guitars inthe song introduces us to a relaxed and friendly vibe. | *Sweet F.A.* probably the most adventurous song added to the album. Is taken from a live show performed at Fortissimo. Driven by dirty guitars and somewhat angry lyrics Dave Larkin knows when to push his vocal limits and creates a more telling song than he possibly realised.  ‘And when I waste all my money I think you’d fall at my feet/and now she’s happy inside she’s got me down on my knees.’  This is followed by *Sold Me*, a violin laden ballad that slowly builds up to quite a fast and rocky number that would make anyone with some good sense have bop to at their live show.  Tracings of Deep Purple are present in the track *Already Gone* with almost desperate vocals, set against driving guitars and big brass band drums.  Interfaced with hints of ska pop beats, rockabilly and soft blues, Dallas Crane are clever enough not to complicate songs with too much of everything. *Come Again* is a good example of this, with an intro scented of the Clash’s London *Calling* and anthemic choruses. ‘So pardon me cause I just don’t know what to say/it’s been a long time since a woman made my day/ Come again you know you’re welcome any time/ You’ve been a good friend and I hope that cash is fine’. Even though the lyrics may seem somewhat self-effacing at times. Dallas Crane is solidly built, honest and earthy. They have created an album that suggests there is much more up their sleeves.  ERICA URQUHART |  |

1. You want a recording deal. Write a letter to a Record / CD company:

hype your

**NEW RELEASE ALBUM**

band up?

You are interviewed for a rock mag. Write an article discussing your band: style of music, personal philosophy, the types of messages your music conveys.

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| Knitting together  Gersey aren’t one of those indie underachiever bands, guitarist Matt Davis tells MARTIN JONES  Gersey have created one of the year’s most beautiful records.  Refined but fresh, sprawling but laconic emotive but disciplined.  *Hope Springs* marks the end of an 18-month adolescence for the Melbourne-based Gersey; a growth spurt during which the band matured from infancy to adulthood. It’s that kinetic momentum and promise that are expressed in the album’s title.  Back in 1998, at the time of their debut recording. *Bewilderment is a Blessing*. Gersey were basically a shaky two-piece. In guitarist and founding member Matt Davis’s words. “It was like two kids in a mate’s lounge-room really trying to make some half-good ideas sound good”.  Davis is over-modest: *Bewildererment is a Blessing* is charming, wide-eyed work.  Davis and Gersey co-founder Craig Jackson (bass, vocals then embarked on a run of good luck. As well a positive response to *Bewilderment*, that band acquired two potent catalysts in new members Daryl Bradie (keyboards, guitars) and Danny Tulen (drums).  Davis sings the praises of the pair: “As far as friends go, we’re just super-close, and music is just a part of that. What has come out is much more developed, a much stronger sense of unity and fun.”  That sense an uplifting spirit pervades every corner of *Hope Springs*. “That idea of hope is something that we’ve been interested in for this whole period.” Davis says “having the band so tight, it does help you have that feeling that things could be all right, could work out for us. Without that unity it’s easy to get a bit down, but now we’ve always got drinking to be had or a game of soccer or whatever. There’s always something good we can do as a group, otherwise.” | Ambition says Davis, was the key to making *Hope Springs*. Having signed to Trifecta Records they wrote, arranged and rehearsed every detail for an appointment with renowned producer Tim Whitten.  “We knew we only had five days in the studio and we went in knowing exactly where everything had to go and what sounds we were looking for.”  Gersey Australian Tour 2010  http://www.liveguide.com.au/Tours/654866/Gersey/Gersey/Gersey\_Australian\_Tour\_2010?event\_id=654866#details  Much to Davis’s surprise, the band completed most of the tracks live and in one or two takes. Aiming for spirited takes rather than technically perfect ones. Whitten fostered a studio momentum that kept the band on their toes and working hard for the entire five days – which perfectly suited the Gersey ethic of industry and ambition.  “One of our biggest gripes is the sort of underachiever ethic in some of the more indie groups”. Sys Davis “because we just want to be bigger than that. Not that we want to be a huge band or anything, but we want to plan for bigger ideals, like writing bigger songs, writing songs as good as we can, as good as anyone can.  *Gersey launch hope Springs at the Punters Club, Fitzroy tomorrow night. The album is out now through Trifecta* |

1. You’ve hit the big time. You’re awash in fan mail.

What type of letters do you receive?

Write a fan letter.

1. You are going on tour: prepare an itinerary of your Tour.

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| JEBEDIAH’S HOME RUN  Alt rockers Jebediah are returning to Australia for a national tour. The band have played more than 70 international dates through New Zealand, Canada and the USA; they’ve even done a ‘behind the scenes’ video in true international rock band style (*Jebedanies*, out November 6 through Murmur/Sony).  Jebediah’s *Home Sweet Home* tour starts mid-November in NSW; Melbourne shows are the hallam, Hotel- Hallam, on Wednesday November 29; the Corner Hotel, Richmond on Saturday December 2; and the Planet X Summer Xtreme Games, Sunday December 3. Support comes from Geelong’s finest *Magic Dirt*. | http://www.fasterlouder.com.au/allabout/artist/671/Jebediah/photosJebediah |

1. You win an award at the Aria’s for the best new band: prepare your acceptance speech.



<http://www.news.com.au/formguide-to-the-aria-awards/story-e6frfn79-1111114723125> (Powderfinger photo source)

<http://www.last.fm/music/The+John+Butler+Trio/+images/37621451> (John Butler Trio photo source)

<http://www.triplem.com.au/sydney/music/photos/wolfmother-far-away-video> (Wolfmother photo source)

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| **festival studios**and**mastering** | | |  |  |
|  | **demos**to**lockout**&**deals** | |  | BOYZ II MEN  Nathan Michael Shawn Wayne  (Universal) |
| http://buzzhacks.com/wp-content/plugins/WPRobot/images/01835_41MOelErqeL._SL160_.jpg  Source: buzzhacks.com | | **studio A:** world class classic 24 track recording from Neve console to Pro Tools version 5 loaded with cool plug-ins.  **fishtank:** state of the art digital MIDI studio with every beatbox, noisebox and synth imaginable. Josh Abrihams at the control.  **mastering:** William Bodwen will polish your music for commercial cd release.  Call Suzanne on **02 9395 8070** to discuss your recording needs.  packaged deals for unsigned acts. |  | Boyz II Men consisting of Nathan Morris, Michael McCary, Shawn Stockman and Wanya Morris, have earned quite a reputation as possibly the most influential male vocal act of the past decade. Indeed, NSYNC has admitted to owing their career to this dynamic R&B foursome. After receiving numerous Gammyu Awards and accumulating classic hits such as their debut *Motown Philly, End of the Road*, and their Mariah Carey duet, *One Sweet Day*, they released their fourth album *Evolution*. Now they have returned with their fifth album Nathan, Michael, Shawn, Wanya. Containing up-tempo stomping dance tracks, Latin-tinged-numbers and acappellos harmonies this album should appeal to their devoted fan base and perhaps convert new R&B pop fans to their sound. |
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