

inklewriter

inklewriter is a free tool designed to allow anyone to write and publish interactive stories. It's perfect for writers who want to try out interactivity, but also for teachers and students looking to mix computer skills and creative writing.

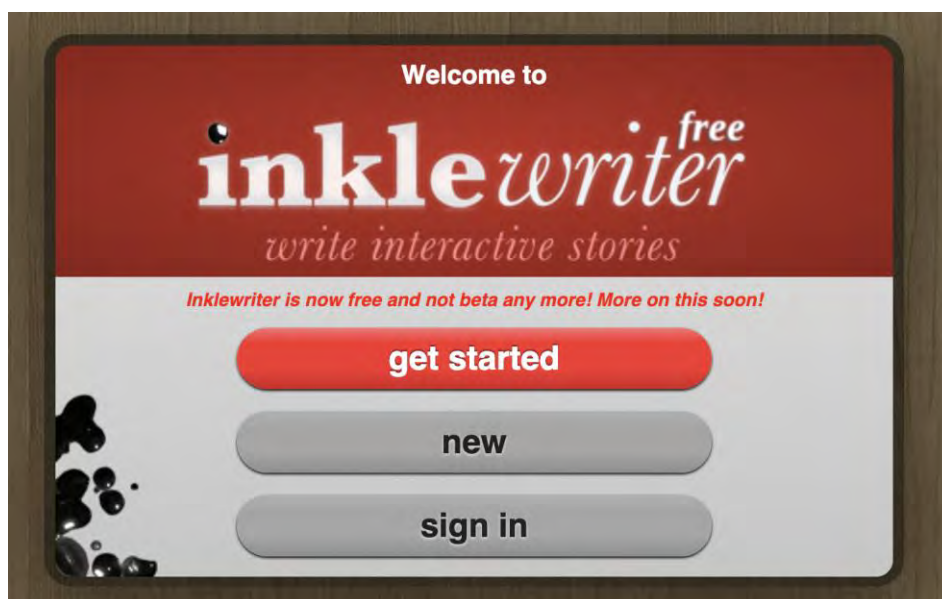
inklewriter is not designed for sound-based stories or interactive audiobooks, but it is useful as a tool for keeping track of a branching story structure.

Getting started with inklewriter

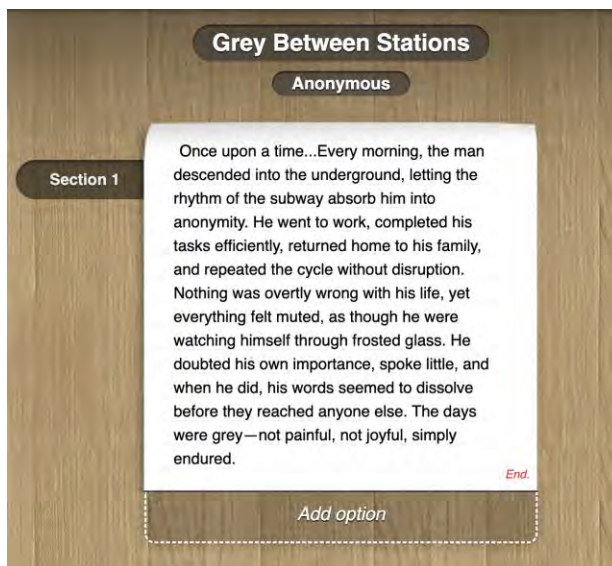
Start a new story by clicking on "Start writing".



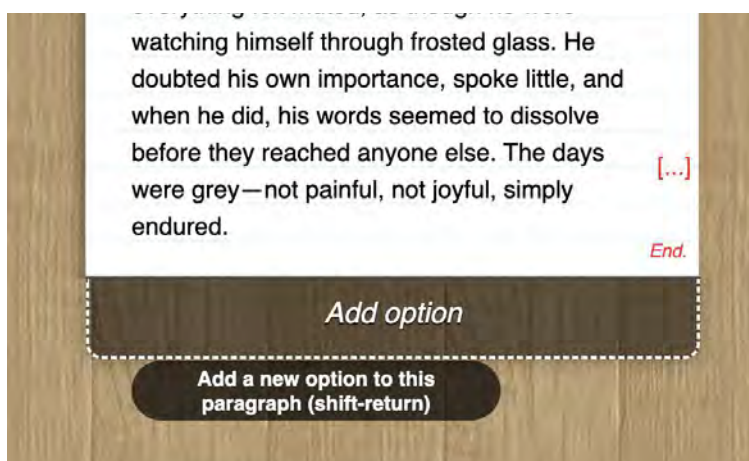
Then select "get started" if you have no previous story, or "new" if you want to start a new story. There is no need (at least not for this workshop) to create an account.



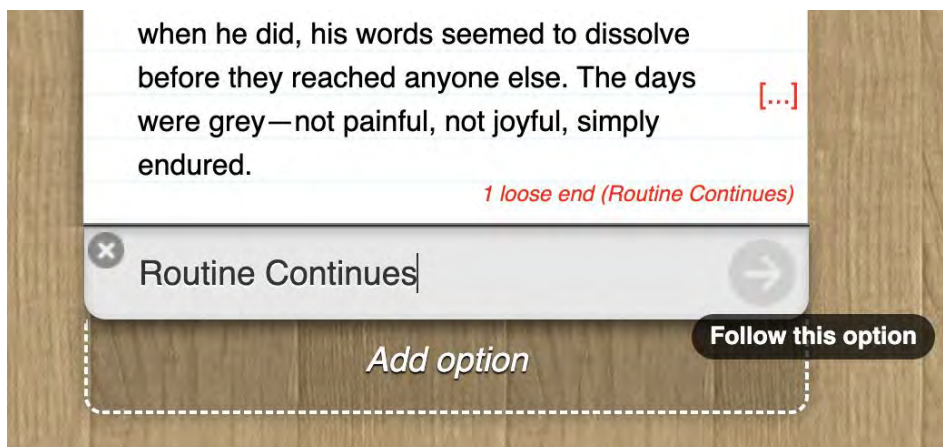
This opens the story page and by default it is in “write” mode. And you can add the title of the story at the top and write the first opening text. This is also called a “Section”.



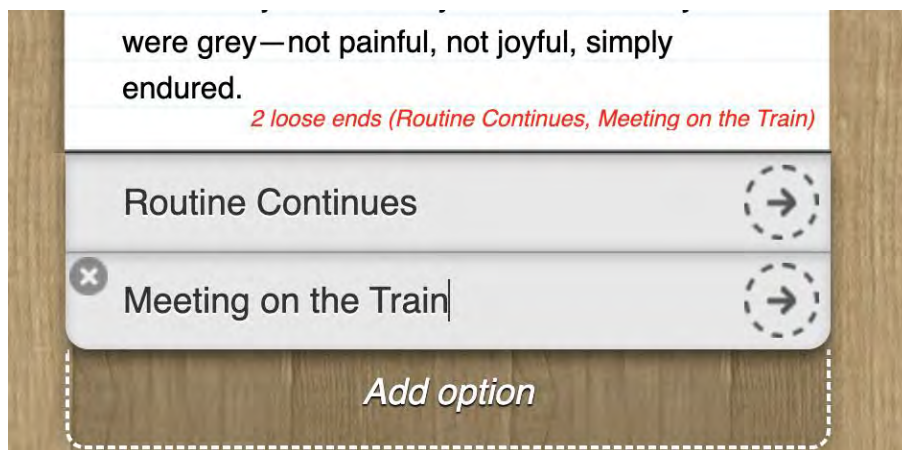
When a new story is created like this, you have the first building block for the branching storyline. By clicking on “Add option” you can start adding branches.



A branch is called an option, and you name the branch, so it makes it easier to follow the branching structure.

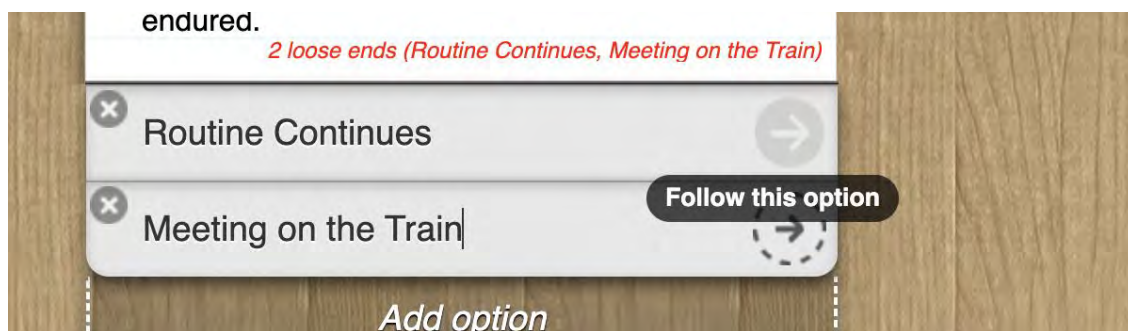


Continue adding as many branches from the current position in the story as you need by clicking “Add option”. It is always possible to go back and add more branches later.

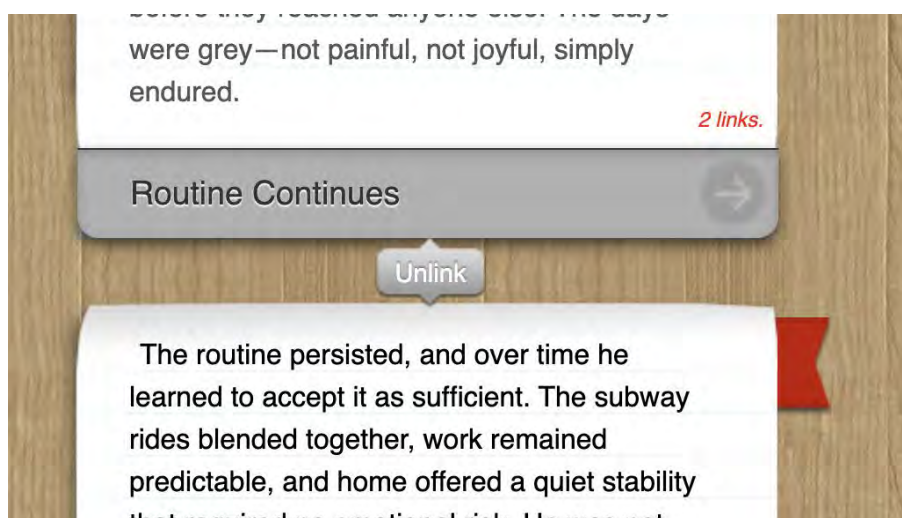


Adding content to the branches (options)

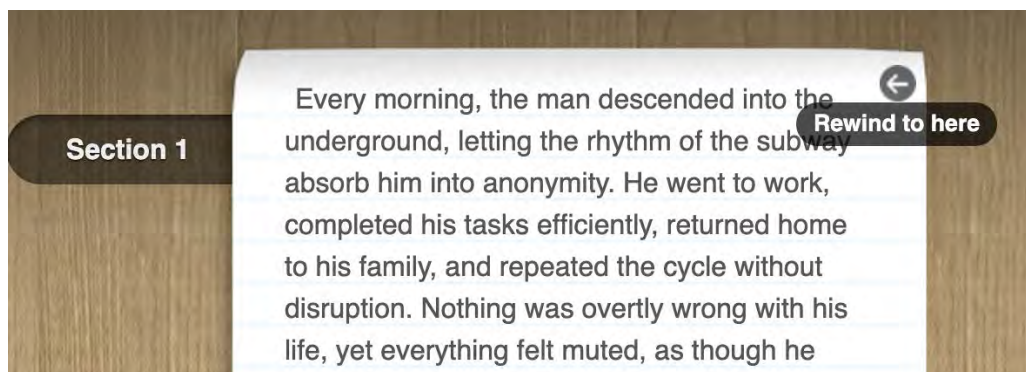
To add/write the text for the branches, click on the arrow (“Follow this option”).



This opens a linked window where you can write the next branch in the story. At the bottom there is “Add option” for writing the continuing branches. The link also shows to what Option that the branch is linked to, and you can “Unlink” the branch if you want to.

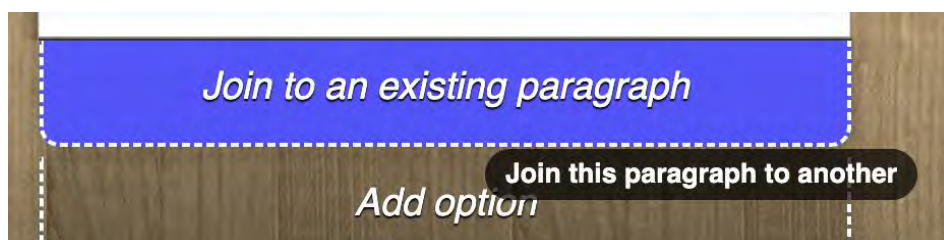


Finding the way back to the previous branch to open the next option for writing that part of the story is somewhat tricky and unintuitive. At the top of the branch that is the parent of the current link, click the little left-pointing arrow “Rewind to here”.

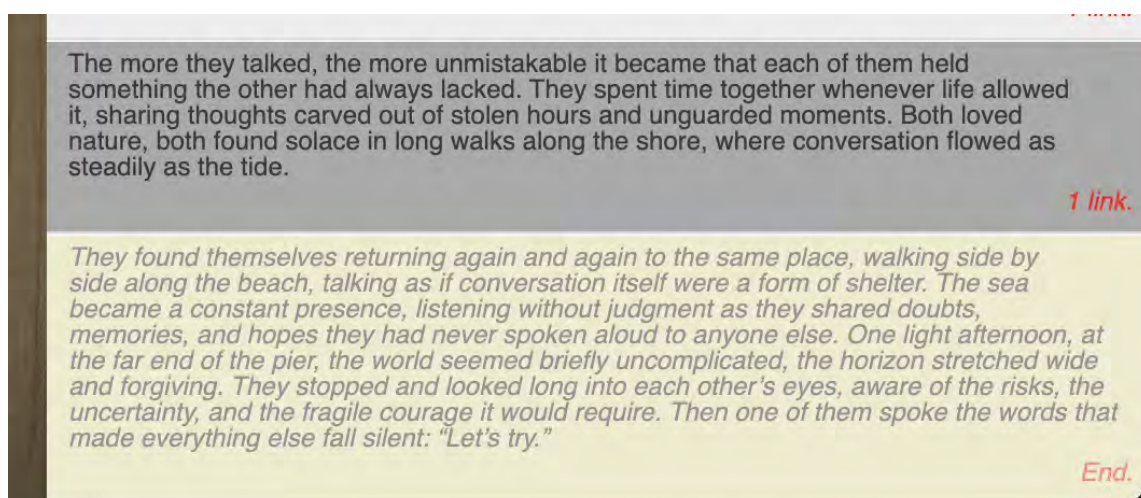


Linking to existing branches

It is possible to link to existing branches (or paragraphs) by choosing “Join to an existing paragraph”. First you click “Add option” from the paragraph (or section) that you want to go from, then click “Follow this option”, then instead of writing a new text you select “Join to an existing paragraph”.

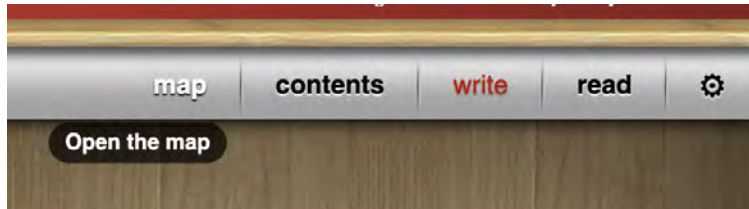


When this option is clicked, a list of all options and sections will be shown to the right of the page, and it is possible to link to an existing paragraph (or option) by clicking on the corresponding paragraph in the list.

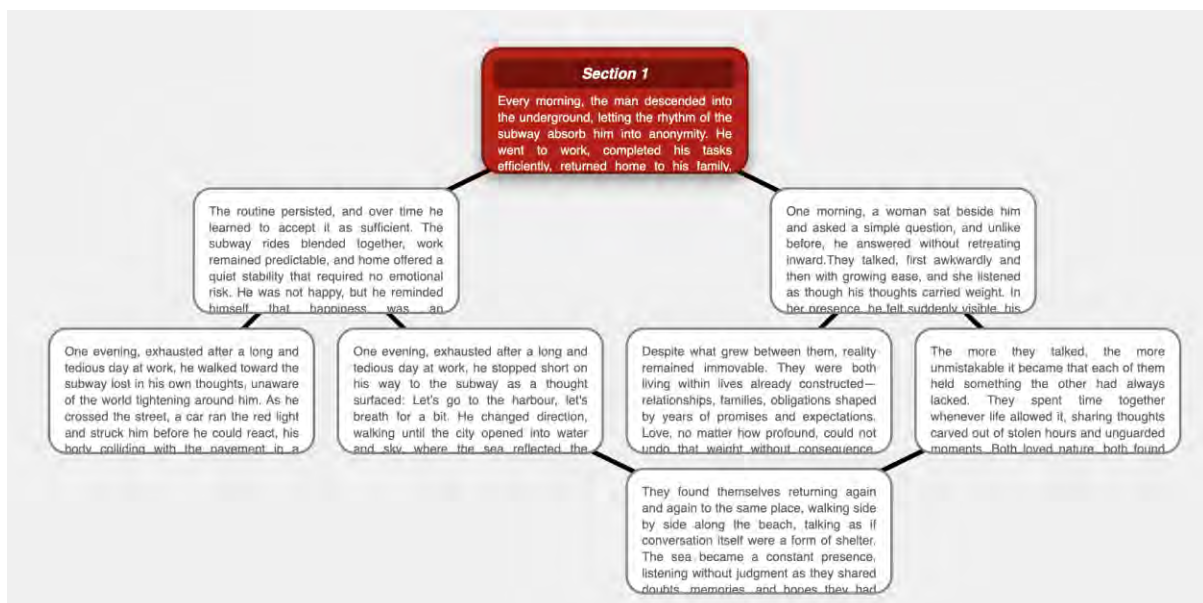


Reviewing your work

When all text is added and all links are made, it is possible to review the work, and I highly recommend that you do that to ensure that the storyline is working and that you are happy with the structure.



By clicking on “map” you get an overview of the structure of the story and the linking.



If you click “read”, a new web page is opened where you can read (proof-read) and check that the story works in terms of content and flow for each branch.

