Ways to Advocate:

* Posting documents on a class website
* Sending letters to the editor of the local newspaper
* Creating a class anthology
* Making a display in the school media center, trophy case, or public library
* Composing business letters to send
* Participating in listserves
* Sending letters to local or state representatives
* Sharing the writing with parents or other family members
* Writing for the school newspaper or PTSA newsletter
* Sharing writing with residents in assisted living facilities
* Creating texts to be used in elementary or middle school classrooms
* Submitting manuscripts to magazines for teen writers
* Creating a multimedia anthology
* Participating in email exchanges with students from near and far
* Submitting works to the school literary magazine
* Placing texts in waiting rooms (doctor's office, vet, hospital)
* Reciting their original poetry in a "poetry slam"
* Contributing to the school yearbook
* Sending thank you notes
* Keeping a weblog
* Writing proposals to solve problems in the school community
* Creating surveys to use to gather data.

<https://www.bookwidgets.com/blog/2017/08/30-creative-ways-to-use-padlet-for-teachers-and-students>

Blogging: It has at its heart two of the most important ideas about writing: audience and purpose. So when you want to communicate with extended stacks of paragraphs–as teachers love for students to do–blogging is great. They’re free, generally easy to use, and allow for students to share their thinking with the world (mercifully removing the primary teacher as the audience for the students’ thoughts).

But what else is there? What else might be possible that can take the best parts of both blogging and the writing process in general? That allows students to communicate in new ways, but with that same sense of audience and purpose, diction and tone, writing process and task awareness? With new modalities added in–videos, images, and nuanced social linking that conveys meaning and thematic development of its own? Below are 8 alternatives to blogging

**1. Storify**

Journalism gone social. Or social media gone journal. Or blogging in-network. Or, well, what is storify, exactly? It’s a platform that allows the publishing of ideas. So, writing.

**2. Storybird** “Storybirds are short, art-inspired stories you can make and share on any device.” Sounds like 21st century writing!

**3. Tumblr**

The popular-with-the-kids baby blog that would probably be awkward to use to publish straight academic work, but then again, when was it bad to avoid purely academic work in pursuit of native audiences and swank digital formats?

**4. Instagram**

More image than text yes, but text is possible, and the images can be magnificent. If nothing else, a wonderful supplement to traditional expository and prose-based writing.

[**5. oneword**](http://oneword.com/)

Writing is a muscle, and atrophies without use. oneword is an excellent daily exercise tool that can be entirely learner-directed.

[**6. ohlife**](https://ohlife.com/write)

Simple, no-nonsense format for basic entries and journaling**.**

[**7. Glogster:**](http://www.glogster.com/)

Videos, images, and words mashed together to convey a message–and easy to use as well.

**8. Google+**

We’ve talked about [**using Google+ in the classroom before**](https://www.teachthought.com/technology/10-ways-to-get-started-using-google-in-your-classroom/), but with easy to use groups and visibility settings, simple embedding of videos and images, and the ability to easily share files with Google Drive for digital portfolio curation, Google+ is a must-have tool for the digital teacher and student.