



# When Writers Were Your Age: Roald Dahl

**DIRECTIONS:** Write a one sentence summary of each paragraph on the lines below.

Roald Dahl was born in the United Kingdom, but he spent his childhood summers with his grandparents in Norway. Roald was always busy and energetic, and often ended up in trouble. One of his earliest memories is speeding to school on his tricycle while his sisters struggled to keep up with him. His ability to find trouble made his early school years difficult. He left his first school after putting a dead mouse in a storekeeper's candy jar, a prank that led to him being beaten by his school principal. From there he went to boarding school and then to an excellent private school, but Dahl described his school years as being full of "horrors" as a result of the "rules, rules rules" and the stories he wrote later in life reflect all the darkness he felt during this time.

Roald was not a very good student. Nonetheless, his mother wanted to send him to college. But Roald refused to do. In a book he wrote about his childhood called *Boy: Tales of Childhood*, he says he told his mother, "No, thank you. I want to go straight from school to work for a company that will send me to wonderful faraway places like Africa or China." He had had enough of school, and he could not wait to set out on a life of adventure.

PARAGRAPH 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PARAGRAPH 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_