



Writing Narrative/Story

Holiday Homework

What is Narrative Writing?

Narrative writing is generally thought of as story writing. The main purpose of a narrative text is to entertain the reader, viewer or listener. Sometimes narratives can also be used to inform or teach too.

Usually, a narrative will follow a very specific structure including a beginning, middle and end. It will often be written using chronological events and set in the past present or future.



Features of a Narrative Text

A narrative text...

- tells a story, usually in chronological order;
- begins with an introduction to the characters and setting of the story;
- involves a problem or complication of some sort;
- includes a series of events;
- ends with a resolution.



Language Used in Narratives

The language used to write a narrative should include...

- past tense (often but not always)
- character names
- story specific vocabulary
- dialogue between characters
- descriptive language to “show not tell” the story
- chronological sequencing words



Types of Narrative Texts

story

biography

legend

fairy tale

fable

historical

poem

myth

play



Picture books, novels, comics, movies, short films and theatre shows are all examples of how a narrative may be presented. Can you think of any other ways to present a narrative?

Types of Narrative Texts

Do you know a narrative about this picture?



Types of Narrative Texts

Discuss the narrative problem about this picture.



Can you write a narrative/story about this picture?



Word bank to help you.

Descriptive Settings: Forests and Woodland

What Can I Describe?

bark
berries
birds
brambles
branches
deer
fallen leaves
ferns
foxes
ground
insects
ivy
mice
moss
pine cones
spiders
squirrels
thickets
trees
trunks
undergrowth

How Can I Describe It?

abundant
chirping
creaking
damp
decaying
earthy
fallen
gloomy
humming
impenetrable
peaceful
rotting
rough
serene
shady
silent
stagnant
sun-dappled
tangled
tranquil
whistling

What Can It Do?

bend
creep
govern
groan
jut
perch
protrude
rise
rustle
scamper
scramble
scramble
scurry
settle
shuffle
slouch
stumble
sway
twist
weave
whisper

Examples of Effective Phrases

The rustling leaves sang a soothing melody...

...sun-dappled secrets being uncovered...

...scampered and scurried through a labyrinth of roots and fallen foliage...

The haunting shadows of branches danced across the floor...

...holding its majestic crown of leaves high...



Remember to include all the features of a story.

My Narrative Writing Checklist

Name.....

My story has an interesting title.	
I have described the setting and atmosphere using descriptive language.	
I have introduced my character or characters and told the reader about them.	
I have explained what is happening at the beginning of the story.	
My story has a believable but interesting problem.	
My character(s) solve the problem in a believable way.	
I have shown the feelings of my character(s) as they deal with the problem.	
I have finished writing effectively to complete the story.	
I have written in paragraphs and each paragraph contains a new idea or event.	
I have used interesting language throughout my story to paint a clear picture for the reader.	
I have used time words to help the reader follow the story.	
I have used different types of sentences to make my writing entertaining.	
I have used speech carefully with correct punctuation.	
I have checked my work carefully and have corrected any spelling, grammar or punctuation mistakes.	

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Beginning

What happens at the beginning?

Who are the main characters?

Where is it set?

How are the characters feeling?

Build up

What happens next?

How does the story hint at a problem?

How are the characters feeling?

Problem

What is the problem within the story?

How are the characters feeling?

Resolution

How is this problem resolved/ sorted out?

How are the characters feeling?

Ending

How does the story end?

Does it end happily? Is there a twist to the plot?

How are the characters feeling?

You can use this planning template as a guide to plan your story. You do not need print it out.

Word of the week

difference = in maths means take
away

difference & decrease

