

Narratives

Plot structure

- ❖ Opening
- ❖ Rising action
- ❖ Climax
- ❖ Falling action
- ❖ Resolution

Opening

Ways to start a story- When you write a story it is important to make an impact right from the start. No one wants to read a story any further when it is boring at the beginning!

- Catch the reader's attention
- Make the opening dramatic
- Make the reader want to read on
- Take the reader straight into the story

You could

- Describe the setting: Describe where the story is taking place.
- Describe a character: Describe the main person in the story, remember how you describe them must have an impact on the story. E.g. "Jim was an unlucky boy..." Jim being unlucky must have an impact on the story line, e.g. Jim loses his wallet etc...
- Action: Straight into the excitement, characters are doing something
- Dialogue: The characters are speaking to each other.

Challenge

Can you open with something special- a question? Connective (eg although), or an exclamation (eg Bang!)

Meaty middle (which includes rising action, climax and falling action)

The middle of the story must keep the reader's attention that you caught with the beginning. Keep the action going, develop the characters and story line. Remember that you need to start a new paragraph when something changes.

Ways to start new paragraphs

- Change of setting: The action in the story happens in another place.
- Change of time: The story moves on to another time that day or the next day etc...
- Change of person: A new character is introduced, they may say something or just be described.
- Change of event: Something new happens in the plot

Resolution

Ending a Story

The ending of a story is really important, you don't want to disappoint the reader by giving them a weak ending, it can spoil the whole thing!

- Draw all the threads of the story together
- Resolve any conflict within the story
- Complete the telling of events

You could

- **Conclusive:** Draw to an end all the events that have happened in the story.
- **Cliff - hanger:** Leave the reader in suspense, wondering what will happen next.
- **Reflective:** Narrator or a character, thinks about something that has happened in the story, this can be done with direct speech.

Don't forget that all explanations need punctuation too!

Remember to vary your sentences and VCOP!