

WRITE THAT STORY!

A vibrant pink background featuring a central illustration. A young boy with dark hair, wearing a light blue jacket over a white shirt and dark pants, stands on a stack of three books (two blue, one pink). He is holding a large white star above his head with both hands. Surrounding him are various icons related to writing and thinking: a lightbulb with a pencil inside, a clock, gears, and scattered letters like 'A', 'B', and 'C'. The word 'WRITE' is in large white letters, and 'THAT STORY!' is in bold black letters.

LANGUAGE REFERENCE, LOTS OF PRACTICE, AND
WRITING PROMPTS TO HELP STUDENTS DEVELOP
SUCCESSFULLY THEIR NARRATIVE SKILLS.

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About this resource

Are you looking for NO PREP Narrative Writing Practice for your EFL learners? If your inventiveness is flagging, and your pupils have difficulties in brainstorming ideas, then this is an essential classroom resource for YOU!

With your purchase you will get language reference , lots of practice, and writing story starters to help students develop successfully their narrative skills.

Goals

- Write simple narratives to share real or imagined experiences.
- Describe events using adjectives and adverbs.
- Recount events from the past using past tenses.
- Organize events naturally and logically.
- Use a variety of transition words and phrases in their writing.

Contents

1. What is a narrative?
2. Writing a story: Elements of a story.
3. Linkers.
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7. Analyse the story.
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9. Complete with the correct narrative tense.
10. Read the situation and write that story!
11. Narrative Checklist.
12. Rubrics.

What I do when I teach writing

- The way to improve writing is to write a lot and edit more! I ALWAYS ask my students to re-write their pieces of writing so they can assimilate learning and become aware of what their mistakes are.
- Whenever possible, give your students some freedom about what to write. Provide them with more than just one prompt or topic so they feel they have voice and choice in their own learning experience.
- Teach self-editing with checklists.
- Explain and talk about the Rubrics so they know what is expected from them.

Why is it important to tell stories?

- We can help someone see things in a different way.
- We can connect with others.
- We can pass on our culture and values.
- We can forge new relationships.
- We can inspire.



learning how to write and tell a story is something we must
celebrate and perfect.

Narrative Writing

What is narrative writing?

The definition of narrative is a piece of writing that tells a story, and it is one of the four ways that writers use to present information. The others include an exposition, which explains and analyses an idea or set of ideas; an argument, which attempts to persuade the reader to a particular point of view; and a description, a written form of a visual experience. (<https://www.thoughtco.com/narrative-composition-term-1691417>)

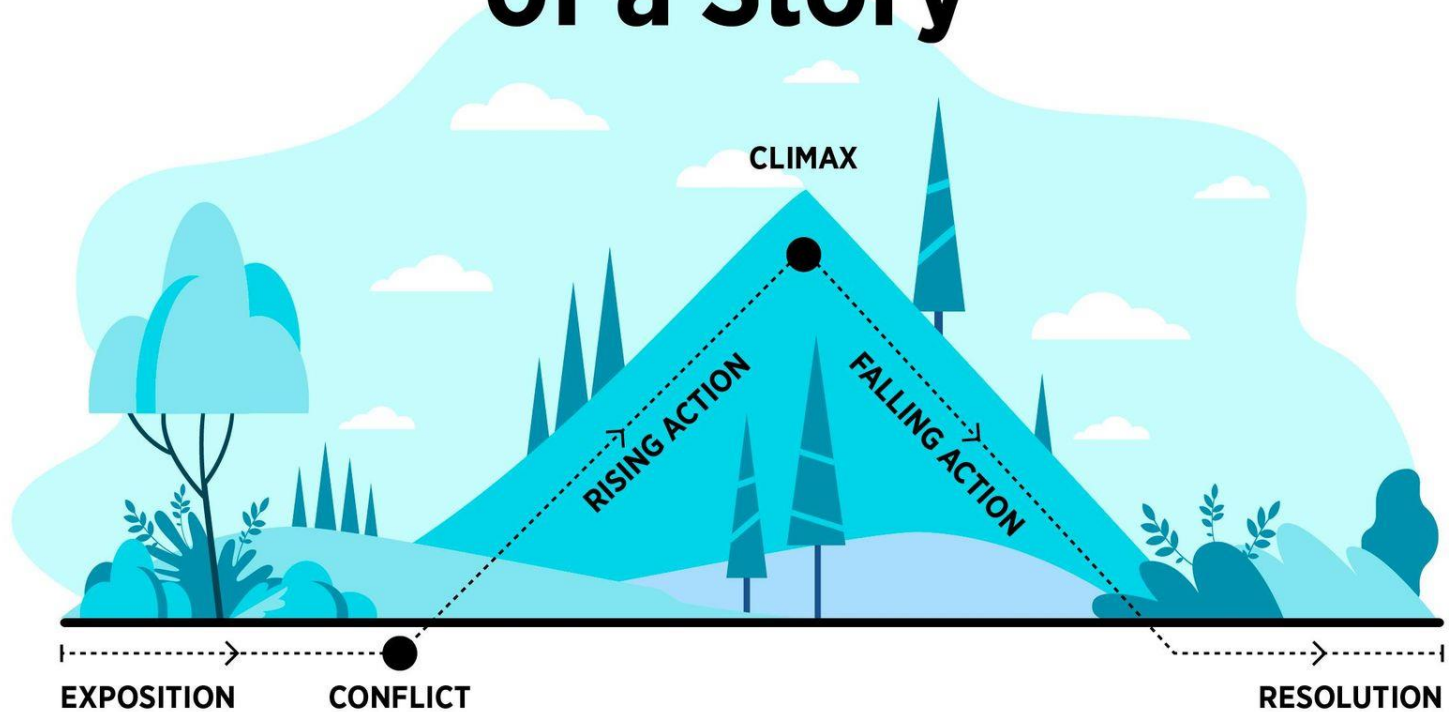
Narratives are social. They are at the heart of how we communicate as social beings.

Elements of Narrative Writing

A Narrative or Story must have these elements:

- An introduction in which you set the scene. (When does the story take place? Where? Who are the main characters?)
- A plot which consists of the sequence of events in a story. In a story there must be a conflict, incidents leading up to the main event and the event itself.
- A conclusion in which you can refer to the conflict's resolution, people's feelings, and reactions of consequences.

The Structure of a Story



Story Outline

Setting

Characters

Conflict:

Resolution:

Themes:

Paragraphs

When you write a story you divide it into paragraphs

Introduction: set the scene.

Developing paragraphs: describe the events in your story and the conflict.

Conclusion: explain how the conflict was solved and how the people involved felt.

Tenses

Use past tenses to narrate your story

Past Simple is used to describe actions that started and finished in the past, and a series of events in the past. Example: "I **woke up** and **got** my things ready for my first school day"

Past Continuous is used to set the scene and describe actions in progress at a certain time in the past. Example: "The sun **was shining** and the birds **were singing**"

Past Perfect is used for actions that happened before another action in the past. Example: "I decided to call her and tell her what **had happened**!"

linkers

linkers are used in a narrative to connect ideas.

Write the following words and phrases in the correct column

next – when – clearly - unfortunately - finally - after that – fortunately - later - first – then – while - afterwards

suddenly initially - during – meanwhile – obviously – all in all

Introduction	Sequencing	Conclusion	Events happening at the same time	Interruptions	Emphasizing sth good/bad happened

linkers

Connect the sentences using a linker or connector. Make some changes if necessary.

Although / despite / when / as a result / until / while / unfortunately / in spite of / so

1. The weather was very bad. He went out for a walk.
2. It was a difficult task. She solved it with ease.
3. She had to finish her homework. She could go out afterwards.
4. It didn't rain for months. The lakes dried up completely.
5. He tried to play until the end of the match. He had injured his knee.
6. Road conditions were extremely bad. There were no accidents.
7. She sorted out her clothes. She realized that she needed some new ones.
8. It was too windy. The flight was delayed.
9. The plane had been in the air for about half an hour. Suddenly it started to dive towards the ground.
10. We have mice in the house. We don't have a cat.

linkers

Complete the texts with an appropriate linker.

because - finally – unfortunately - as – and - so – suddenly - but

___ I walked nervously towards the stage, I saw my classmates whispering to each other. I took a deep breath ___ my heart was pounding and started reading the poem. To my surprise, I soon began to feel more relaxed and ___ I could enjoy the experience!

Last Sunday, John and his wife were sitting in their living room watching Netflix ____ their son was playing with his toys. ____, the room started shaking ___ they hid under the table. ____, a vase fell to the ground and broke down ____ luckily nobody got hurt.

Similes and metaphors

One way to write exciting descriptions is to use similes and metaphors.

A simile is when you compare one thing with another thing of a different kind. For example, "You were as brave as a lion". A metaphor is when you describe something as if it was something else. For instance, "I have a mountain of work to do". All in all, the simile tells the reader that something is similar to another thing, but not the same. A metaphor, on the other hand, says that something is something else.

Examples of Similes

As cute as a kitten
As happy as a clam
As light as a feather
As blind as a bat
like cats and dogs
Eat like a horse

Examples of Metaphors

The classroom was a zoo
Her eyes were fireflies
The thunder was a mighty lion
The lake was a mirror
The moon was a white balloon
Her tears were a river flowing down her cheeks

Similes and metaphors

Simile or Metaphor? Circle the correct option and answer the question!

1. Fear fell from us like steel armor. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

2. He was as sharp as a razor. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

3. His words cut deeper than a knife. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

4. That girl sang like an angel. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

5. Kisses are the flowers of love. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

6. She was going through a rollercoaster of emotions. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

7. This is the icing on the cake. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

8. His hands were as cold as the Arctic. Simile or Metaphor?

What is being compared? _____

Analyse the story

The day I met my best friend

Three months ago I was coming back from work when I saw an accident on Angel Road. It was winter, the cold air stung on my cheeks and everything was covered and painted with snowfall.

Suddenly I saw a yellow car driving very fast. It went through the red light and hit a scruffy dog that was crossing the street. The dog ran away and I ran after him. Finally, I found him behind a bush. The dog had long brown hair and a big white spot on his chest. His eyes were so expressive that I understood they were begging for help. I took him to the hospital immediately. The vet told me he had a broken leg and prescribed some antibiotics and pain killers.

Finally, after some days, the dog recovered. Now he's my best friend, his name is Angel and we are inseparable companions.

1. Divide the text into paragraphs using brackets. Identify the introduction, developing paragraph and conclusion.
2. What tenses are used in the text? Highlight them.
3. Circle linkers and connectors.
4. Underline adjectives and adverbs.

Analyse the story

The Mysterious Call

It was late at night, I was alone at home watching Netflix. My parents went out to celebrate their anniversary. Suddenly the phone rang, I wondered who could it be?

When I answered the phone I could hear someone whispering my name. I got scared so I immediately hung up! Five minutes later, the phone rang again, I thought that maybe my parents wanted to tell me something so I answered but the scary voice whispered my name again. I panicked, went upstairs and got into my bed in shock! Then, the phone rang again but this time I didn't answer. I was scared stiff.

When my parents returned I told them what had happened. To my surprise, they began to laugh. It seems that my best friend, Tom, had played a joke on me while mum and dad were away. I hadn't realized that it was April's fool day.

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Analyse the story

lost

My little brother Jack is so annoying! He is eight and I am 12, we are totally different. I am shy and he's extroverted, he's all the time getting into trouble. Last weekend, we went to the mountains with our parents. After we had a picnic, we went for a bike ride.

Some time went by and my brother didn't come back. My mom got upset so we decided to look for him. We were really frightened when we saw cycle tracks leading to the edge of a cliff. The path was very steep and went down a long way. We shouted his name but there was no reply. I started crying.

Suddenly, I looked up and saw Jack at the top of the mountain. He was waving his arms saying hello. I felt relieved but I actually wanted to kill him!

1. Divide the text into paragraphs using brackets. Identify the introduction, developing paragraph and conclusion.
2. What tenses are used in the text? Highlight them.
3. Circle linkers and connectors.
4. Underline adjectives and adverbs.

Analyse the story

A time I felt embarrassed

My friend Ana and I were ready for the ballet show. It was a beautifully serene night the day the National Ballet was performing at the Garden Theatre.

We didn't have much money so we bought the cheapest seats in the gallery, at the highest level of the theatre. We sat down and enjoyed the show. When the performance ended, we headed towards the stairs. Ana was wearing high heel shoes so she asked me to move to get hold of the stair railing. As soon as I let her grab the handrail, I lost balance and fell down the stairs like a sack of potatoes.

People shouted horrified by the scene. My friend's mouth hung open like the gates of Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. Nobody could believe their eyes! luckily, I landed on the entrance hall safe and sound, no injuries, no bruises, just a terrible feeling of wanting to vanish from planet earth.

1. Divide the text into paragraphs using brackets. Identify the introduction, developing paragraph and conclusion.
2. What tenses are used in the text? Highlight them in yellow.
3. Circle linkers and connectors.
4. Underline adjectives and adverbs.
5. Find similes and highlight them in green.

Funny Fill-Ins

A disastrous holiday

last year I went to _____ (noun, place) with my _____ (noun). The weather was _____ (adjective) and _____ (adjective).

We went to the beach, _____ (action in the past), _____ (action in the past), and _____ (action in the past). My brother ate a lot of _____ (noun, food) and he got a _____ (noun, illness). To make matters worse, , my sister fell in a _____ (noun) broke her _____ (noun, part of the body).

Fortunately, she is now in hospital recovering from her _____ (noun). Next year, I want to go to _____ (place), where I can _____ (verb).

Funny Fill-Ins

Free Ticket

_____ (name) lived in _____ (place) with _____ (noun). He/she was _____ and _____ (personality adjectives).

One day, he/she received a letter with a ticket inside. There was also a note that said, "here is a free ticket to the

_____ (entertainment) on _____ (date). Have fun". The letter had no name on it so he/she decided to _____

(action) his/her friends to find out who had sent the free ticket. Apparently, no one had done it.

One day, while he/she was putting on his/her _____ (piece of clothing), there was a knock on the door. When she

opened the door, there was another free ticket to the _____ (entertainment). _____ (name) was puzzled. She

extremely felt _____ (adjective).

Funny Fill-Ins

Cooking for Mum

One day _____ (name 1) and _____ (name 2) wanted to cook something special for their mum because it was her birthday. It was going to be a surprise! They wanted to make a _____ (adjective) _____ (meal). They went to the supermarket and bought _____, _____, and _____ (ingredients).

Once back in the kitchen, they pulled out everything and began cooking. After some time, they put the _____ (meal) in the oven. When mum arrived from work, she shouted "something smells _____ (adjective) here!

_____ (name 1) and _____ (name 2) started _____ (-ing verb). They opened the oven and saw their _____ (meal) totally _____ (adjective)! They felt _____ (adjective).

Complete the texts with the correct form of the verbs

last February, I _____ (decide) to go on holiday to Florida. The day I _____ (leave) England it _____ (rain), but, when I _____ (land) in Florida, the sun _____ (shine) and a lovely warm breeze _____ (blow) from the sea. I _____ (take) a taxi to my hotel. As I _____ (check) in, someone _____ (tap) me on the shoulder. I couldn't believe my eyes! It was my old girlfriend. She _____ (stay) at the same hotel. The next day we _____ (go) to the beach and _____ (spend) the rest of the week together. It _____ (be) very romantic. We _____ (feel) very sad when the holiday _____ (end).

When I _____ (study) at university, I _____ (share) my flat with two other friends. We _____ (not have) much money so we _____ (decide) to buy a lottery ticket. We _____ (use) the dates we were born on as the "lottery numbers". The next Saturday, we _____ (have) a drink when the winning numbers _____ (come) up on TV. They were OUR numbers!!! The only problem was that we _____ (forget) to buy the lottery ticket!

Laura and Martin were a happy couple. They _____ (enjoy) going away for the weekend in their motor home. One day, they _____ (take) a walk when a thief _____ (pay) them a visit. When they _____ (return), they _____ (see) the man in the bushes very sick. Apparently, the thief _____ (try) to steal petrol from the tank and _____ (drink) it by accident. As soon as the police _____ (arrive), the ambulance _____ (already take) the thief away.

PROMPTS FOR NARRATIVE WRITING!



Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Amelia was not a happy at all during her holidays. She and her cat, Snowball, were camping by Lake Awe. She loved to come up to the mountains and camp alone, but now she was surrounded by hundreds of other tents. There were radios blaring, and lots of kids playing football. What is she going to do?

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Isa worked for the lost and Found department at the City Bus Station. It was packed with all the items people left on buses. She had suitcases, sunglasses, scarves, coats and even false teeth! Just as she was about to turn off the lights, Paul, the bus driver came through the door with a little puppy in his arms.

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Jack was on the beach. He was exploring the place when he saw a big tower on top of a cliff. He went to the tower and saw a strange woman waving at him. It looked like a warning, not a friendly wave.

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Cooper was a very “naughty” dog, his owner, Will, used to leave him in the backyard while he was away because he loved chewing EVERYTHING. One day, Will was coming home from work when he noticed that his dog had disappeared.

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Oliver was driving his bus back to London Station when suddenly he got a message from his boss. He wanted him to take a group of celebrities around to see the city sights. Will he do it?

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

I was enjoying my adventure in a hot-air balloon when suddenly I got blown off course and landed on an island inhabited by cannibals and dangerous animals. How can I escape from this horrible place?

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

One day, I was walking in the forest when I came upon a unicorn. The unicorn was in trouble and it asked me for help.

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Jill Thompson was the owner of a very popular restaurant in Paris. lately, some strange things have been happening. Someone left a card on one of the seats. It read, "The food in this restaurant is horrible! Another day she found a message on one of the windows, "Save your money, don't come to this place". She was upset. Who could this person be?

[illegible]

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Two very close friends were hiking through the countryside when they saw an amazing rainbow in the distance. They made their way towards it, hoping to find the end of it. Eventually they reached the end of the rainbow, and saw something that blew their minds!

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Oliver was a dressmaker living in a small but beautiful town called Raglan. He made beautiful dresses and women loved him. One day he received a call from The White House. He couldn't believe his ears! The first lady wanted him to design a dress for an important ceremony in Raglan. Will he accept?

Read the situation and WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

lola was coming from school when she noticed a huge package on her front steps. It was wrapped in yellow paper, and it had a beautiful bow on top. There was also a note attached to the top of the package. She tore it off, and began to read.

Read the situation and in pairs WRITE THAT STORY! Your text should be 100 – 150 words long

Katy was walking along the beach when she saw a bottle that has just washed up onto the sand. It had a message in it. After carefully reading it she decided she'd better act fast. Very fast!

[illegible]

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Narrative Checklist

	YES	NO
The text is divided into paragraphs.		
There is an introduction, a conflict and a resolution.		
The text has the appropriate spelling and punctuation.		
All sentences have a subject.		
The vocabulary is appropriate.		
The sentences are grammatically correct.		
The text has a variety of verbs, adjectives and adverbs.		
There are linkers that hold ideas together.		

Rubrics

CATEGORIES	0-5 POINTS
Paragraph Organization The narrative is organized in a logical format. Each paragraph is connected to the central and the main topic sentence is supported with many details.	_____ /5
Linking The text is connected and coherent, using basic linking words and cohesive devices.	_____ /5
Communicative Achievement Tone and word choice match the audience.	_____ /5
Use of English Writing is totally free of spelling, grammatical, and mechanical errors.	_____ /5

Post Story Writing Activities

1. Choose a piece of music that captures the essence of your story.
2. Interview a character from your story.
3. Create a trailer to summarize the plot.
4. Illustrate the setting of the story!
5. Create a comic strip depicting the climax!
6. Turn your story into a rap and summarize the plot!
7. Organize a Mock Trial and judge a character for what he/she did.
8. Make a Kahoot Quiz about your story!

Resources for Writing

Words to use

<https://www.words-to-use.com/>

Amazing Dictionaries

<https://www.thesaurus.com/>

<https://www.wordnik.com/>

<https://www.urbandictionary.com/>

Story Starters

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/index.html>

Writing a Short Story

<https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/writing/intermediate-bl-writing/short-story>

<https://kl2.thoughtfullearning.com/lessonplan/writing-narrative-paragraph>

Resources for Writing

Narrative Tenses Practice

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/lq9l3l68zy>

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/rhl40597lev>

<https://www.liveworksheets.com/hq103752in>

Transition Words

<http://writing2.richmond.edu/writing/web/transl.html>

<https://www.education.com/download/worksheet/171664/narrative-transition-words-and-phrases.pdf>

Stone Soup. It is the literary magazine and website 100% written and illustrated by kids through age 13.

<https://stonesoup.com/>

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