



## Narrative Writing

### Steps to Writing a Narrative

1. **Brainstorming:** Come up with ideas for your story. Think about interesting characters, settings, and plots. Jot down your thoughts, keywords, or even draw mind maps to visualize your story.
2. **Planning:**
  - Decide on your main character (protagonist), and other important characters.
  - Create a plot outline: What is the main problem or conflict? How will the story begin (exposition)? What exciting events will happen (rising action)? What is the most exciting moment (climax)? How does the problem get solved (falling action)? How does the story end (resolution)?
  - Choose your setting: Where and when will your story take place?
3. **Drafting:** Write your story from beginning to end, focusing on getting your ideas down. Don't worry too much about spelling or grammar at this stage.
4. **Revising:** Read through your story and make changes to improve the plot, characters, and setting. Add more details, sensory descriptions, and dialogue.
5. **Editing:** Check your story carefully for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalisation errors.

### Literary Devices

- **Simile:** Comparing two things using "like" or "as" (e.g., The snow was as white as a sheet).
- **Metaphor:** Comparing two things without using "like" or "as" (e.g., The moon was a silver coin in the sky).



- **Personification:** Giving human qualities to non-human things (e.g., The wind whispered through the trees).
- **Hyperbole:** An exaggeration (e.g., I'm so hungry I could eat a horse!).
- **Alliteration:** Repetition of the same sound at the beginning of words (e.g., Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers).
- **Onomatopoeia:** Words that imitate sounds (e.g., buzz, hiss, crash).
- **Imagery:** Vivid language that appeals to the five senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch).
- **Dialogue:** Conversations between characters.

### **Show, Don't Tell**

Instead of telling the reader what a character is like or what is happening, show them through actions, thoughts, senses, and dialogue.

#### **Example:**

- **Tell:** The old house was spooky.
- **Show:** Cobwebs draped like ghostly curtains across the shattered windows of the old house. The wind howled through the broken roof, and the floorboards creaked with every step.

#### **More Tips for Showing:**

- **Use strong verbs:** Instead of "walked," try "stumbled," "marched," or "crept."
- **Include sensory details:** Describe what the characters see, hear, smell, taste, and touch.
- **Focus on character actions and reactions:** What do they do and say that reveals their personality and emotions?



- **Use figurative language:** Similes, metaphors, and personification can create vivid images in the reader's mind.

**Remember:**

- Make your characters believable and relatable.
- Create a captivating opening to hook your reader.
- Build tension and suspense throughout your story.
- Write a satisfying conclusion that ties up loose ends.
- Have fun and let your imagination run wild!