



How to write your own story! The “8 steps” guide!



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Writing your own story can be both fun and challenging! But even the most experienced authors have some tricks in their hats! Here is a quick guide to help you write your own story from beginning to end and enjoy the whole process!

Step 1:

Decide the genre of your story

Fantasy, mystery, myth, adventure, comedy... there are so many genres to choose from! It's important to have an idea of what genre your story is going to be before you start writing it. If you decide to write a fantasy story, for instance, you could note down all the things you think of when it comes to this genre: dragons, castles, princes and princesses, unicorns, magic, the list goes on! Already, there are plenty of ideas to explore.

Step 2: Create your character

The character is the most essential element of every story!

Knowing who your characters are, what they look like, what are their wishes etc., beforehand will help you start your story. Most stories have a main character (the protagonist - the good guy), an antagonist (the bad guy) and a cast of supporting characters on either side. In order to create well shaped and interesting characters, you should ask yourself:

- What do they look like?
- How old are they?



- How do they move and speak?
- How do they feel at the start of the story?
- What's their personality like?
- What do they want?
- What's stopping them from getting what they want?

The clearest the image you have about your character, the best!

Step 3: Find the setting

The setting of the story is just as important as your characters. It's where all the action is going to happen! So you have to decide about the "where" and "when" of the story. Whether it's a haunted house, magical forest, or the vast galaxies of outer space, where your story unfolds in the past or in the future, the setting should be firm in your mind before put pen to paper.

Step 4: The Beginning

All good children's stories have a beginning, middle and an end. Describing the setting while the action is getting started is a brilliant way to suck the reader into the world of the story and start introducing your character. All writers know that you've got to capture the attention of your readers right from the start; you want to make them desperate to read on.

Here are a few openings you can use:

First sentences that are mysterious

Maggie had no sense of the day that lay ahead.

Story starters that use language tricks like alliteration (words with similar sounds)

It was damp, dark and dreadfully dusty when Maggie entered the house.

Story openers that create tension

Maggie could hear her heart beating faster than ever before. Could this really be happening?

Stories that go straight into dialogue

"But I don't want to go to school, Mummy," groaned Maggie.

Extra tip: look at some of the books you like to read and see how they begin in order to get some inspiration.

Step 5: The Conflict

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Another element of the plot is conflict, or the problem that the hero faces. Conflict happens when characters are against each other, like teams in a game or two groups fighting on the playground. A common conflict is that one character – the good hero – wants something or wishes to help someone else and another character - the mean villain-is trying to stop the hero. So, the hero might be trying to find a hidden treasure or save a child in danger. A hero on the playground may be trying to stop a bully – the villain – from picking on other kids

Step 6: The Turning Point

The turning point is usually in the middle of the story and helps to make a story more interesting. It can be an “a-ha” moment, a time where a character discovers a hidden superpower or a surprise that throws the whole story into a spin. Let your fantasy run wild and think of something that the readers would least expect!

Step 7: The Resolution

A good story doesn't finish without a final resolution. You must decide how the conflict in your story finishes. Link your conflict with the turning point and create a meaningful resolution.

Step 8: The End

A satisfying ending is the perfect way to finish a story. What happened to your characters once their conflict became resolved? Were they able to finally achieve something, or did they learn an important lesson as a result?

Extra tip: Pay attention to the language

Reading must create pleasure! Think of some fabulous words to use in your story writing. They might be long words or simple ones, or they might be great descriptive words or words that help create pace and tension.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH & ENJOY WRITING YOUR STORY!



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