

Narrative Writing

A hand holding a pink marker is shown writing the words "Narrative Writing" in a bold, teal, sans-serif font on a grey chalkboard. The chalkboard is set against a light blue background with faint, colorful scribbles. The entire scene is framed by a dark grey border with white circuit-like patterns in the corners.



What is Narrative Writing?

- A narrative is a story containing specific elements that work together to create interest for not only the author but also the reader.
- This type of writing makes the reader feel as if he or she were part of the story, as if it was being told directly to him or her.



Elements of Narrative Writing

PLOT

- The who, what, where, when, why, and how outline that gives the narrative direction.
- What is the story about?
- Events unfold as they happen.
- The frame of the narrative.



Plot Structure of Narrative Writing

- **Beginning:**
 - Enticing opening to capture readers' interest.
 - Setting revealed.
 - Main characters introduced.
 - Conflict presented.



Plot Structure of Narrative Writing

- **Middle**
 - Characters attempt to resolve conflicts or problems.
 - Action progresses sequentially, step by step.
- **Climax**
 - The turning point of the narrative.
 - Reveals the process involved for solving the conflicts.



Plot Structure of Narrative Writing

- **End**
 - Tells how the resolution of the conflicts have affected the characters.
 - No new characters or plot ideas introduced.
 - Theme or message understood by reader.



Elements of Narrative Writing

CHARACTERS

- The people, animals, or inanimate objects who are affected by the actions of the plot or who are the cause of certain events.
- Characters, real or imaginative, should be brought to life through the narrative.
- If a character is not described well, the story will not be believable.



Elements of Narrative Writing

SETTING

- Where and when the narrative takes place.
- Allows the readers to visualize the scenes and the characters in those scenes.
- Although the setting may be clear for the author, he/she must create a picture for the readers.



Elements of Narrative Writing

STYLE

- The figurative language (similes, metaphors, etc.), sensory imagery, vivid verbs, strong sentences, dialogue, and point of view that makes each author unique.
- Every student has his/her own style and technique. Although we have the same topic, everyone will write differently.



Elements of Narrative Writing

CONFLICT

- The problem that must be overcome or resolved so that the readers will not be left hanging.
- Types of Conflict:
 - Person versus Self
 - Person versus Person
 - Person versus Society
 - Person versus Machine/Technology
 - Person versus Nature



Elements of Narrative Writing

THEME

- A theme is a message revealed in the story.
- It may be directly stated, like in a fable where the moral is told at the conclusion.
- It may be indirect, leaving the reader to decide the story's message.
- There can be more than one theme for a narrative.



Different Points of View

Who is telling the story?

- **First Person point of view**
 - “I” as the narrator
 - Good for personal accounts.
 - Example: I will never forget the day that my hamster died...



Different Points of View

- **Third Person point of view Limited**
 - “He,” “she,” “it,” “they” perspective
 - Written as if the story is observed from outside of the characters.
 - Reader must guess the feelings of the characters by their actions and words.
 - Example: He pounded his fist against the wall and screamed, “Let me out!”



Different Points of View

- **Third Person point of view Omniscient**
 - “He,” “she,” “it,” “they” perspective
 - Narrator can write about the thoughts and feelings of all the characters.
 - Example: “She called him a liar, though she knew he was telling the truth.”



5 W+H Questions Method

- Answering the 5 W and H questions provides the basic info needed to begin a story.
 - **WHO** will be in the narrative?
 - **WHERE** will the narrative take place?
 - **WHY** will the characters do what they do?
 - **WHAT** is the narrative about?
 - **WHEN** will the events happen?
 - **HOW** will the conflict be resolved?



Sensory Imagery

- Using the five senses when writing a narrative helps the reader picture and feel what is going on.
- Describe what you see, hear, taste, touch, and smell to make your reader become involved in the story.



Figurative Language

Figurative Language is the use of descriptive words that bring your reader into the story.



Figurative Language

SIMILES

A simile is a comparison between two unlike things, using like or as.

Examples: Her smile was so wide it looked like a piano keyboard.

He was as sick as a dog.



Figurative Language

METAPHOR

A metaphor directly compares two unlike things without using like or as.

Example: The boy was a golden knight, protecting his little sister from the fire-breathing dragon that lives in the sandbox.



Figurative Language

PERSONIFICATION

Personification assigns human characteristics and traits to non-human objects.

Example: The pencil fought furiously with the eraser, battling over question number three.



Figurative Language

HYPERBOLE

Hyperbole is the use of gross exaggeration to describe something that could never happen in real life.

Example: The teacher's voice was so loud the astronauts orbiting Earth could hear her lecture.



Figurative Language

ALLITERATION

Alliteration is the repetition of two or more sounds.

Example: The witch's washed-out, withered lips whispered, "Watch what awaits you at the bewitching hour!" (*Alliteration of the "W" sound*)



Figurative Language

ONOMATOPOEIA

Onomatopoeia is a word that imitates a sound.

Example: The cow moos in the pasture. (*Moo is the onomatopoeia.*)