

Narrative Writing

Narrative writing is all about telling stories.

How many different stories can you think of?

Which is your favourite?



Features of Narrative Writing

Stories usually have the following features:

Characters

The characters are the people in a story.
What is going to happen to them?

Settings

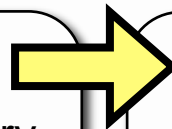
The setting tells us
when and where the
story takes place.

Plot

The plot tells us what happens in the story
(and the order that it happens in).

Opening

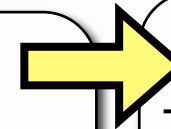
The start of the story.
The opening should
catch the readers'
attention and make
them want to carry
on reading!



Middle

The events in the middle
of the story might include

- a **build-up** to a problem,
- the **problem** itself,
- and **how it is resolved**.



Ending

This explains what
happens to the
characters next
and describes
what they have
learned.



Creative Characters

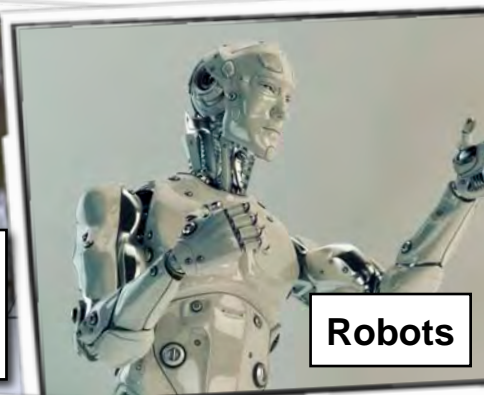
Here are some characters that could be used in a story. Can you think of any others?



**People with
a special job**



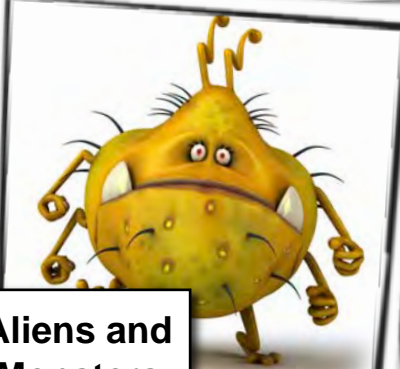
**Objects
brought
to life**



Robots



**Families and
friends**



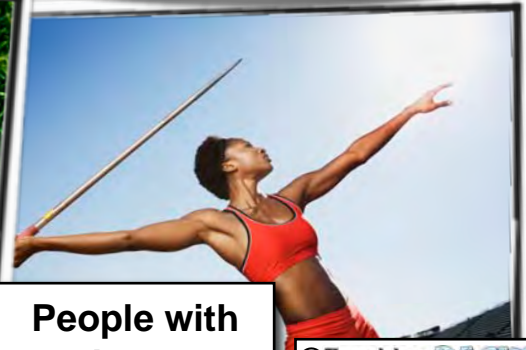
**Aliens and
Monsters**



Animals



Children



**People with
special talents**

Outstanding Openings

The start of a story should 'hook' the reader and make them want to read on!
Can you start your stories in some of these ways?

In the middle of an action

George dived under the table when he heard the deafening noise outside.

Questions

Was she too late?
What if she never got to see her family again?

Speech

"Don't move!" Joe screamed to his younger brother.

Opposites

It was a beautiful day in Longwood Forest, but something revolting was hiding in the trees.

Sounds

'GRRRRR!' The growling of the dog made Sam tremble in fear.

Flashbacks

As I glanced out of the window, my mind drifted back to the last time I was here...

Something Strange

North Park Junior School was just like any other school in the country... even though the teachers were all from a different planet.

Introduce a character

Peter was known for his honesty, but he had a secret that nobody else knew... until today.

Describe the setting

The house at the end of Broomstick Lane had been empty for years. Vines had formed a twisted maze over the windows and cobwebs covered the doors.

Exclamations

Mr. Simmonds was furious!



Check Your Writing

Have you read your writing?

Does it make sense?

Can you ask someone else for their opinion?

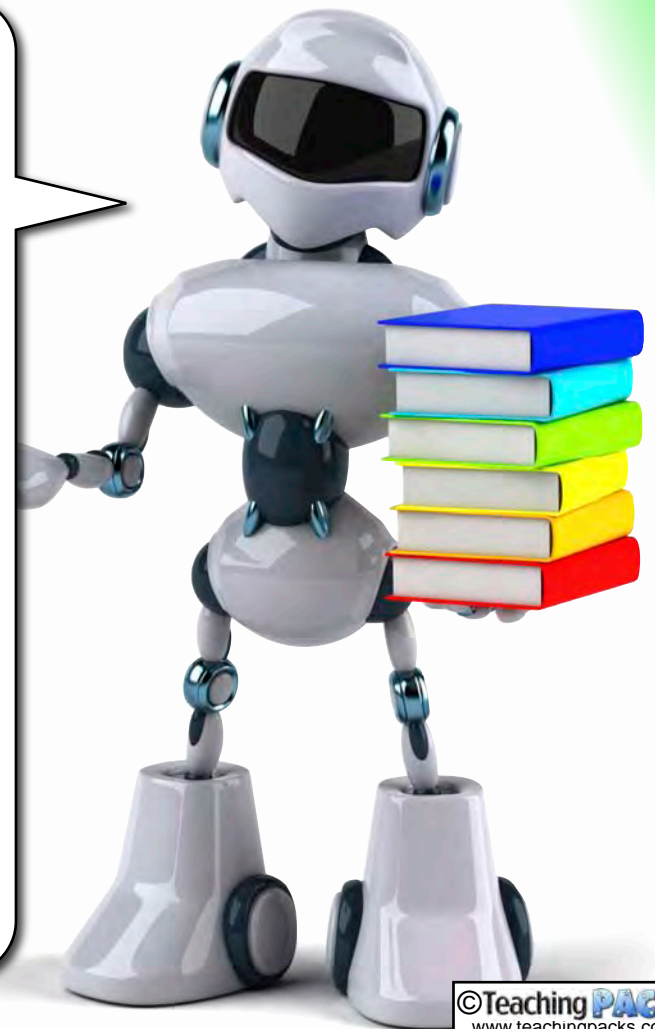
Have you checked your **spelling**?

Have you used a range of **punctuation**?

Is it all in the correct places?

Have you used a range of **vocabulary**?

Could you use a thesaurus to find different nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs?



Narrative Writing Checklist



My narrative writing is about...

I have included:

- ☐ Interesting **characters**.
- ☐ Descriptions of the **setting** of my story.
- ☐ An exciting **opening**.
- ☐ A clear plot, with **a problem** for the characters.
- ☐ An explanation of **how the problem is solved**.
- ☐ An **ending** that explains what happens to the characters after their adventure.
- ☐ Accurate **spelling** and a range of **punctuation**.

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People

Body

athletic
chubby
elegant
fit
handsome
lean
muscular
skinny
slender
strong

Face

blue eyes
button nose
cracked lips
crooked teeth
hooked nose
rosy cheeks
smiling mouth
tiny ears

Hair

curly
greasy
jet black
ponytail
shaggy
straight
wispy

Clothes

boots	raincoat
hat	shirt
jeans	shorts
dress	skirt
hair band	sweater
necklace	trainers
	trousers

Can you think of any other ways of describing people?



Picture:

When?

What time of the day?

Past, present or future?

What time of the year?

Where?

What type of place is it?

Is it real or imaginary?

Indoors or outdoors?

**What is
it like?**

What is the weather like?

What can you see, hear,
smell, taste or touch?

How does it make you feel?



Pick a Problem!



Molly has been accidentally locked in her house.

Captain Sharpwood is being held prisoner by his enemy.

Dougie has fallen down a well and can't get out.

Evan is stuck inside a rocket that is about to launch.

Nolan has been arrested for a crime that he didn't commit.

Anna is locked inside a toy shop at closing time.

The school bully has taken Luke's new football.

The safe at the bank has been emptied overnight.

The sports trophy has been stolen.

The SpaceCruiser was taken!

The key to the treasure chest has been stolen.

The family pet has been kidnapped.

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Mark and Helen

