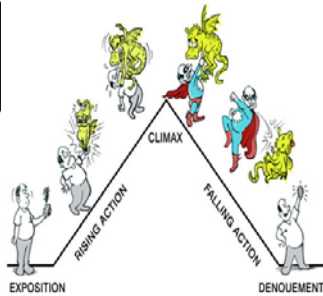


Year 9 Semester 1: Short Stories

What is narrative writing?

'Narrative' is really just another word for 'story'. So 'narrative writing' just means 'writing stories'.



Paragraphing TiP ToP

When should I start a new paragraph?

Time	If the time changes, you should start a new paragraph. So for example if you have used one of these words or phrases ('later', 'the next day', 'in December', 'at 2 O'clock') it's probably time to start a new paragraph.
Place	If the place you are describing changes or your characters move location, start a new paragraph. Use words such as 'nearby', 'in the distance' etc.
Topic	When you need to talk about a new topic or subject, you should start a new paragraph.
Person	If you're describing one person and you want to talk about another, you should a new paragraph. In the same way, when you are writing direct speech, you should start a new paragraph (new line) each time the speaker changes.

5 part Narrative Structure

Exposition	Also known as the introduction. This where the story begins, usually with everyone being happy and everything being normal.
Rising Action	This is when things start to happen. Often a problem is introduced that the characters have to solve.
Climax	This is the most exciting part of the story where everything is chaos.
Falling Action	This is where the characters are fixing the problem they had to deal with, often working together.
Denouement	This is the part of the story where everything returns to normal and happiness is restored (well, sometimes!).

Narrative Perspective

1st person	Told from the perspective of the speaker/narrator. Uses the pronouns 'I', 'me', 'we', 'our' etc.
2nd person	Speaks directly to the reader, suggesting that they are somehow involved in the story. Uses the pronouns 'you', 'your', 'our' etc.
3rd person (omniscient, limited or objective)	Told from the perspective of a narrator who can see everything that happens and knows what the characters are feeling and thinking (omniscient). You can also go 3rd person limited (the thoughts and feelings of one character) and 3rd person objective (where only the dialogue and actions of the characters are described).

Year 9 Semester 1: Short Stories

What is a short story?

A prose narrative which often deals with a single incident or event. It will share many features with a novel, such as characters and themes but is much shorter and can usually be read in less than half an hour.

Features of stories

Plot	What happens in the story. Also called the narrative.
Setting	Where the story takes place.
Characters	The people in the story.

Language Terminology

Noun	A word for an object, person, place or thing.
Adjective	A word that modifies (describes) a noun.
Verb	A word that denotes an action or state of being.
Adverb	A word that modifies (describes) a verb.
Metaphor	Describing something by saying it is something else. E.g. That boy is a monster.
Simile	Describing something by comparing it to something else, using the words 'like' or 'as'.
Personification	Making an object or thing perform an action usually associated with humans.
Alliteration	A series of words that begin with the same sound used next to or near each other.

Structure Terminology

Flashback	Looking back on a memory or an event that happened long before the main story takes place.
Narrative structure/order	Choosing where to start a story can change the meaning or tone. Sometimes writers choose to start at the end or in the middle to create confusion or mystery. Sometimes they follow a simple 5 part structure in that order.
Repetition	Using a word, phrase or idea more than once to draw attention to it.
Narrator	The person who tells the story (see Narrative perspective)

Story	Plot
When the Wasps Drowned	It is the summertime, during the narrator, Eveline's, childhood. Her two younger siblings decide to dig to Australia but end up finding something more sinister.
The Darkness Out There	Sandra is helping out a friendly but lonely elderly neighbour. As the day goes on a terrible secret from the past is revealed and Sandra realises that not everybody is what they seem.
The Man with the Yellow Face	A boy has a strange experience on a train platform, taking photographs.