Write a Story That Feels Real

Real or imagined events that pull readers in



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BIG IDEA

Good narratives make readers live every moment.



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Key words

narrative

story about real or imagined events

event sequence

order things happen in

descriptive details

words that show senses

dialogue

characters talking to move story

climax

most exciting turning point



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Tools that bring stories alive



Sensory details

Show what can be seen, heard, and felt.



Dialogue

Let talking move the action forward.



Action

Use strong verbs to show what happens.



Pacing

Slow down for big moments.

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Which hook grabs you?

Which opening would you most want to keep reading?

A A student finds a backpack buzzing in a hallway.

B A 12-year-old wakes up to pounding on the door.

C Three friends see lights flicker in an empty gym.

Vote with your hands, then explain why.

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Build your event sequence



▶ 0:00 – 3:05

- Listen for orientation, complication, resolution
- Notice how events build in order
- Ask: what is my complication?

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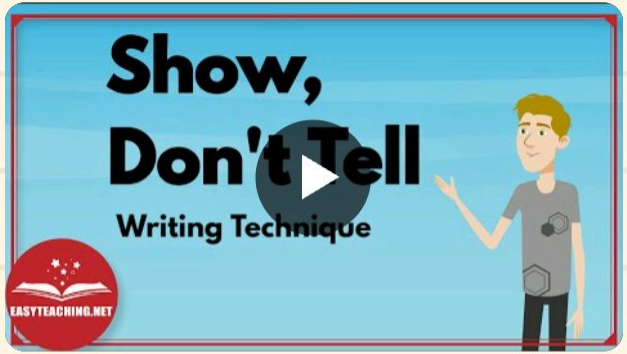
Plan a well-structured story



1. Exposition: introduce setting and problem
2. Rising action: add events and tension
3. Climax: reach the biggest moment
4. Falling action: show what changes
5. Resolution: end with meaning

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Show, don't just tell



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Watch how feelings show in actions
- Listen for sense details to borrow
- Spot telling versus showing

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Your task

Turn your vote choice into a short narrative scene with clear sequence.

1. Pick one hook and map 4 events
2. Draft 8-10 sentences with senses and dialogue
3. End with what changed for the character

12 min

On your own

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A story waiting to happen

- An empty hallway after school. What sound just echoed? What happens next?

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Quick quiz

1. Can narratives be real or imagined?
2. What is an event sequence?
3. Which is showing: was scared or hands shook?
4. Which part has the most tension?

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