

Narratives

What are narratives and why do we write them?

Narratives tell a story. They can be both informative and entertaining.

What are the different forms of narratives?

There are many forms of narratives, for example, myths, fairy tales, fables, parables, science fiction, adventure, historical, romance, mystery, horror, humorous and fantasy stories.

What structure is needed in a narrative?

A narrative includes:

- Orientation: This includes a short introduction about the main characters and settings.
- Complication: This is embedded into the series of events. It is where something will go wrong, and the whole narrative is based around the complication and how to solve it.
- Resolution: This is where the complication is resolved.
- Coda (optional): This gives the audience some extra information in regards to how the character(s) were feeling, how they have changed, and what could be taken from this narrative.

What are the main language features?

• Language of description

Adjectives, adjectival phrases and adjectival clauses, for example, **The girl with the long golden hair.**

Adverbs and adverbial phrases of place, manner, cause and degree, for example, They ran **quickly** (manner) through the streets (place). They were **terribly** (degree) frightened **by the sounds** that were chasing them (cause).

Verbs, for example, jumped, had, shouted, wondered, worried, etc.

• Language to indicate time/sequence

For example, **Once upon a time**, there lived a girl....

• Figurative Language

Alliteration, for example, The **slippery snake slid slowly** over the rock.

Onomatopoeia, for example, **Pop, pop** went the balloons.

Simile, for example, The water was **as cold as ice**.

Metaphor, for example, The classroom **is a pigsty**.

Personification, for example, The leaves **danced in the breeze**.

Idiom, for example, It's **raining cats and dogs**.

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What other features are there?

- **Tense**

Regular Past Tense, for example, The girl **danced** at the concert.

Irregular Past Tense, for example, The boy **swam** towards the rocks.

Present Tense, for example, Theresa **is running** fast.

- **Personal Pronouns**, for example, he, she, you, me, I, we, they, etc.
- **Noun-Pronoun Agreement**, for example, The girl was looking for her brother.
- **Subject-Verb Agreement**, for example, The boys are waiting for the bus. The boy is waiting for the bus. The dangerous creature has sharp teeth and claws. Dangerous creatures have no fear.

What skills are needed and developed when writing narratives?

Using direct speech with question marks, exclamation marks, and using indirect speech.