



GRADE 3 ENGLISH



How to Write a Story:

I love telling stories!



Learning how to write a story is an important skill. It takes lots of planning and thought before we start writing. We need to think about the

setting – where and when a story takes place. We need to think about the **main characters** – who the story is about. We need to think about the **theme** – the main idea or lesson of the story. And we need to think about the **plot** – the main events that happen.

Once we have figured out all those elements we can begin writing. Writing a story can take a lot of effort, however. We need to write several **drafts** of the story and make edits to improve the story. Then we make our **final edits** to finish the process.

So far, we have talked about the differences between **fiction** and **nonfiction**, the **main characters** of a story, how to use **adjectives** and **adverbs** to add more information, how we can resolve **conflicts**, and **time order words**. All of these are skills we will use as we begin to write our own story.



Brainstorming:



...I think I brainstormed too hard.

Brainstorming is the process of thinking about what we want to write about. This is where we get all of our ideas from. There are no wrong answers here. It's best to write down any idea that you can think of because you never know where your best idea is going to come from. Let's start with some guidance and then go from there.

EXAMPLE

We are going to write a story about some animals at a school and a conflict the main character has with a bully. Let's start by thinking about the main characters, the setting, and the plot.

Main characters:

What type of animal is going to be your main character? Write as many animals as you can think of that would be a good lead for your story. Think about the animals in the two books with Elmer and the dragon, or animals from other stories you have read.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Pick your favorite answer and write it here.

Click or tap here to enter text.

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What type of animal would be a good best friend for your main character? Maybe your main character has a few friends.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Pick your favorite answers and write them here.

Click or tap here to enter text.

What type of animal would be a good teacher at this school? Again, write as many ideas as you can think of.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Pick your favorite answer and write it here.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Every story needs a bad guy. What type of animal or animals would be a good bully?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Pick your favorite answer and write it here.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Setting:

We know that the story takes place at a school with the characters you have already written about, but where is the school? Is it in a forest? In a jungle? In a desert? In the ocean? There are lots of places that can be the setting. Think of the most interesting place your story can take place.

Click or tap here to enter text.



Grade 3 English: Lesson 7 – Elmer and the Dragon

Details:

Details are what make a story interesting. Look back at the animals you chose to be your main characters. What names will each character have?

Click or tap here to enter text.

What do you want the school to be named?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Writing a Story Part I:

Here we will summarize what we came up with in the brainstorming phase. These are the best ideas we had and the foundation of the story we will write. Make sure to keep this worksheet handy and save your answers so that you can use them in the next lessons.

Main characters:

Who are your main characters? Put their names and the type of animal they are. Include the lead of the story, their friends, the teacher, and the bully.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Setting:

Where is your story going to take place? Include the name of the school as well as the location.

Homework: Read chapters 8-10 in Elmer and the Dragon

