



GRADE 3 ENGLISH



Writing a Story Part II:

Writing a good story takes a lot of work. We have to do a lot of planning...but it's worth it!

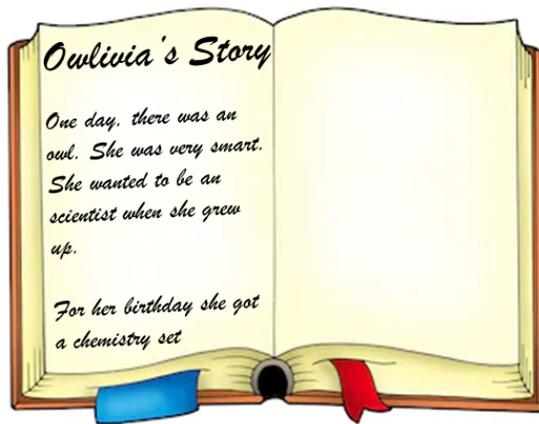


Think about the two stories we have read so far. Notice how My Father's Dragon has a **beginning**, **middle**, and an **end**. In the **beginning**, Elmer is at home with his mom and the cat. In the **middle**, he is meeting all the animals and solving lots of problems. Then he finally saves the dragon, and the **end** is when they escape the island.

Think about the **beginning**, **middle**, and **end** of Elmer and the Dragon. In the **beginning**, they had just left Wild Island. In the **middle**, they are trying to discover the treasure. Then at the **end** of the story, they found the treasure and Elmer returns home to give his parents their presents.

We will finish the series by reading the last story, The Dragons of Blueland. Notice as you read the stages the story happens in and how the **beginning** builds and flows into the **middle** of the story, how the **middle** has more and more actions and finally a climax, and then how everything gets resolved by the **end** of the story. Use the stories we have read a good reference for your own story.

Grade 3 English: Lesson 8 – Elmer and the Dragon



EXAMPLE

We started last time by writing information about the main characters and the setting of the story. Now let's focus on the plot and figure out what is going to happen. We need to think about the beginning where we introduce the main characters, the middle where there is some sort of conflict and the "rising action", then we have the climax, and finally, we have the conclusion of the story.

Plot:

Every good story has a great plot that involves a conflict that needs a resolution. We need to think about a problem that needs to be solved. Your main character is going to encounter a bully at school. Look back at the animal you chose for your main character and the animal you chose for your bully. What type of conflict do you think these two characters are going to have? Is the bully going to make fun of the main character for something? Is the bully going to take something that belongs to the main character? Write as many conflicts as you can think of that would be interesting.

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Pick your favorite answer and write it here.

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Our story is going to have several chapters. Remember that each story has a **beginning**, a **middle**, and an **end**. We will break the story into 5 chapters. The first chapter is going to be the **beginning**, chapters 2 and 3 will be the **middle**, chapter 4 will have the climax, and chapter 5 will be the **end**.

When we write a story, we start by writing the main events of the plot. Right now, we are not going to write the entire chapter. Instead, think about the main things that could be happening in each chapter and how each chapter will flow into the next.

Chapter 1:

In chapter 1, your main character is going to start their day at home. This is where you introduce the reader to the main character and tell interesting details about them: things they like to do, things they don't like, how old they are, what grade they are in, or whatever else you want to include.

Think about what happens in the morning before school. Is your main character going to wake up early or wake up late and have to rush to get to school? Are they going to eat breakfast? Do they have siblings? Do they take the bus to school with other animals or do they walk? Think about all the things your main character will do leading up to school and include as many details as you can.

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Chapter 2:

In chapter 2, your main character will arrive at school and we will introduce the reader to the other characters in the story. Think about the friends they will see, how they interact with the teacher, and how they interact with the bully that will be a problem later on.

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Chapter 3:

In chapter 3, we will be at recess. This is where the bully and the main character have a conflict. What is the conflict you chose? How will the conflict unfold?

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Chapter 4:

Chapter 4 is where we have the climax. This is where the most exciting part of the story happens. Is there a big confrontation where your main character confronts the bully about what they did? Does somebody else step in to take control of the situation? Does the main character have to get the teacher involved?

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Chapter 5:

Finally, this is the conclusion of the story. At this point, we have a solution to the problem with the bully. Write about how the problem gets solved and include details about your main character going home and telling their parents about the day they had.

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Homework: Read chapters 1-2 in The Dragons of Blueland and type Chapter 1 of your story in a word document