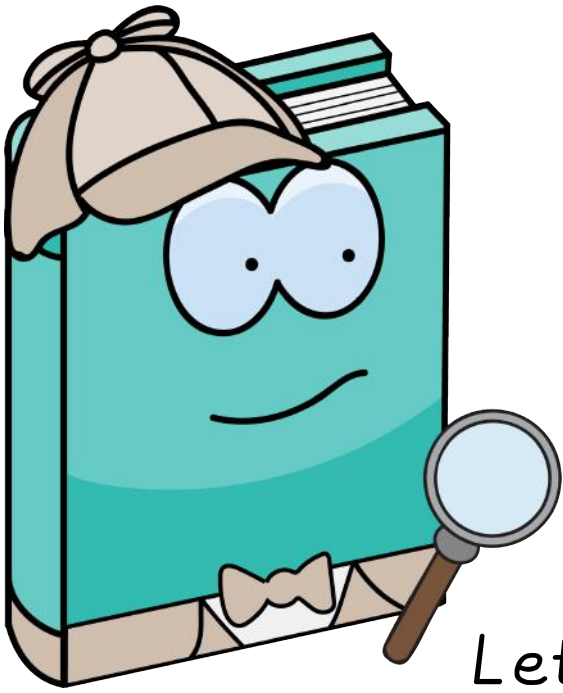


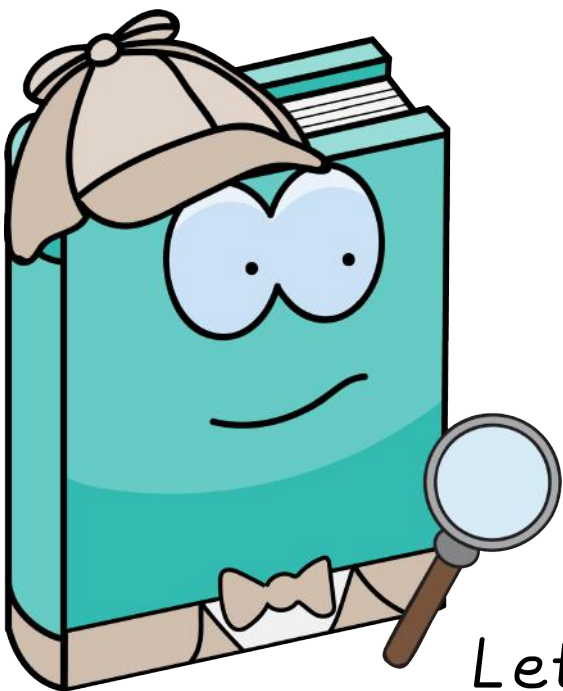
Mystery



Story Writing
Challenge Cards

Let's get story writing!

Mystery



Story Writing
Challenge Cards

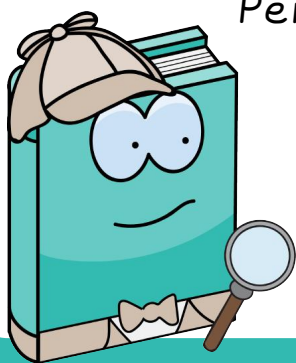
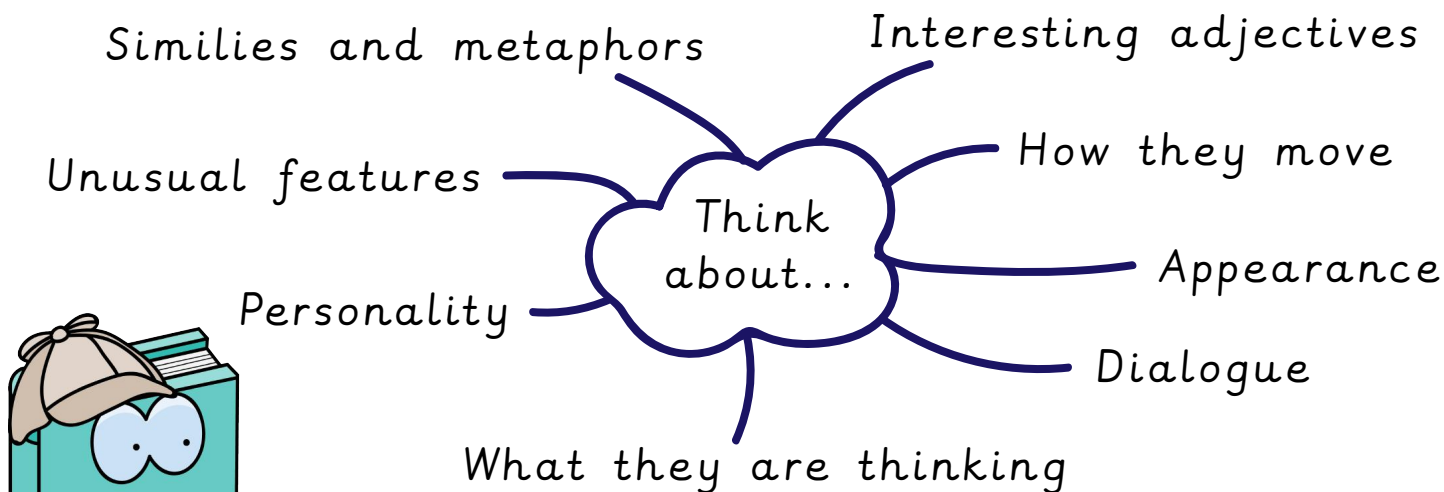
Let's get story writing!

1

Out of Character

Take a look at the photo and use the activity sheet to help write a good character description.

You might want to jot down some ideas first.



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2

Location, location, location

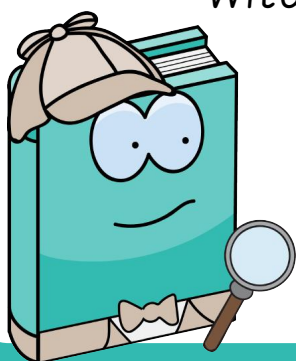
Take a look at the photo and use the activity sheet to help write an interesting story setting.

You might want to jot down some ideas first.

Using the senses...

- What can you **feel**?
- What can you **hear**?
- What can you **taste**?
- What can you **smell**?
- What can you **see**?

Example: the weather, how you feel by being there or something you touch.



This helps the reader to imagine they are there.

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1 Out of Character

Look at the photo and write down your ideas.

How would you describe their appearance? _____

Do they have any unusual features? _____

What do you think their personality is like? _____

Can you think of a simile or metaphor you could use? _____

Give them something to say that will tell the reader something about them. _____

The private investigator had arrived...

1 Out of Character



Private investigator

Look at the photo and write down your ideas.

I can see... _____



I can hear... _____



I can smell... _____



I can touch... _____



I can taste... _____



The museum didn't look the same at night...

2

Location, location, location



Closed museum



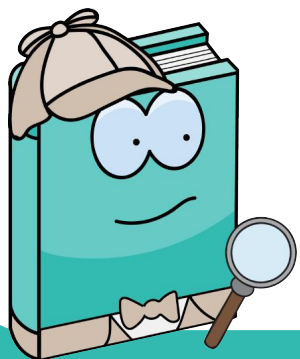
Let's get creative! Part 1

The key to any great story starts with the characters that you create.

Use the activity sheet to draw and describe a main character for a mystery story.

It could be...

- a spy
- an old lady
- a millionaire
- a criminal
- a detective



These are just a few ideas. Don't be afraid to use one of your own.

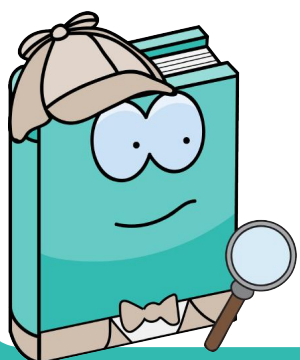
Let's get creative! Part 2

As well as having exciting characters, it is equally important to have interesting settings for your story.

Use the activity sheet to draw and describe a main setting for a mystery story.

It could be a...

- museum
- shop
- train
- bank
- police station
- house

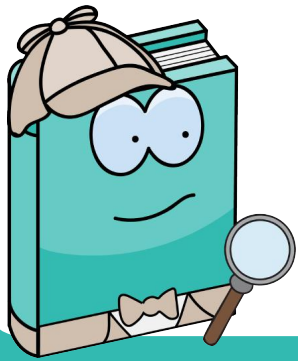
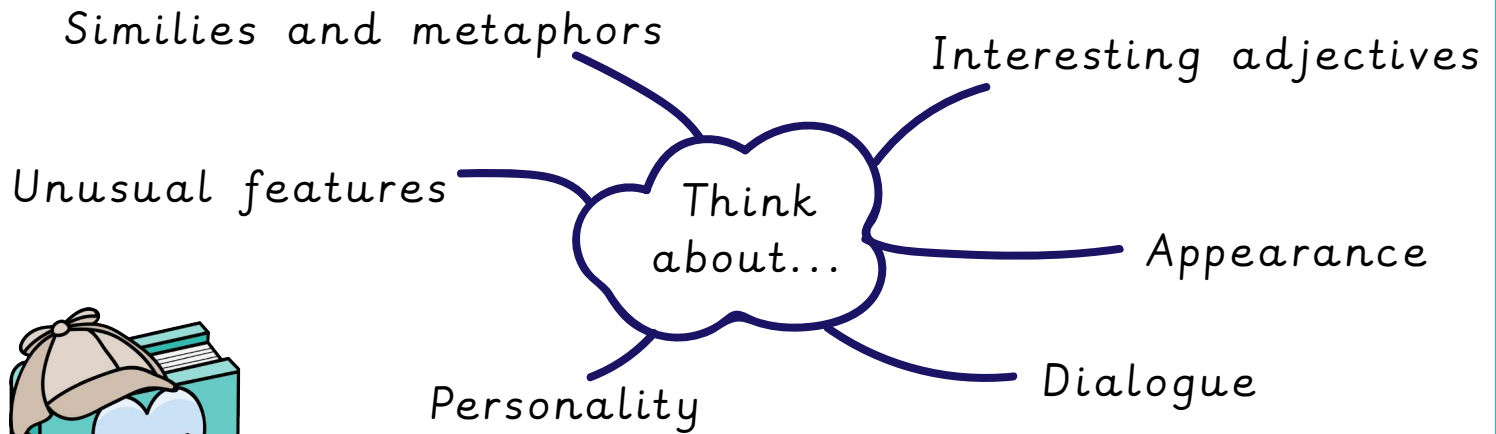


These are just a few ideas. Don't be afraid to use one of your own.

4 Let's get creative! Part Two

5 I've got your back!

A story writer will often introduce humour and fun into a story through a character known as a sidekick. In a mystery story they are often a young person or a police officer helping a detective.



Use the activity sheet to help you create a sidekick character for your mystery story.

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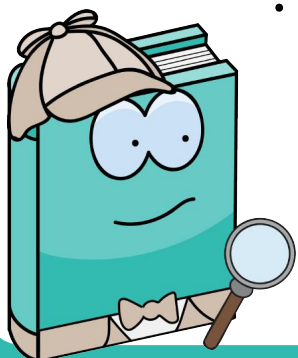
6 We have a problem!

To keep the reader interested, the story writer will always add a problem into the story.

Use the activity sheet to help you plan and write a problem for your mystery story.

It could be...

- a valuable painting is stolen from a gallery
- a millionaire is kidnapped
- a rare diamond goes missing



These are just a few ideas. Don't be afraid to use one of your own.

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5 I've got your back

Case No.	Case Name	Case Type	Case Status	Case Date	Case Location	Case Description	Case Details	Case Notes	Case Attachments
1	John Doe	Medical	Open	2023-01-01	New York	John Doe, 35, male, reported chest pain and shortness of breath.	John Doe, 35, male, reported chest pain and shortness of breath. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a heart attack. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	John Doe, 35, male, reported chest pain and shortness of breath. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a heart attack. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	John Doe, 35, male, reported chest pain and shortness of breath. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a heart attack. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
2	Jane Smith	Medical	Open	2023-01-02	California	Jane Smith, 42, female, reported severe headache and dizziness.	Jane Smith, 42, female, reported severe headache and dizziness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a migraine. She is currently at home and recovering.	Jane Smith, 42, female, reported severe headache and dizziness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a migraine. She is currently at home and recovering.	Jane Smith, 42, female, reported severe headache and dizziness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a migraine. She is currently at home and recovering.
3	Michael Johnson	Medical	Open	2023-01-03	Texas	Michael Johnson, 55, male, reported persistent cough and wheezing.	Michael Johnson, 55, male, reported persistent cough and wheezing. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with asthma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Michael Johnson, 55, male, reported persistent cough and wheezing. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with asthma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Michael Johnson, 55, male, reported persistent cough and wheezing. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with asthma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
4	Sarah Brown	Medical	Open	2023-01-04	Florida	Sarah Brown, 28, female, reported severe abdominal pain and nausea.	Sarah Brown, 28, female, reported severe abdominal pain and nausea. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a stomach ulcer. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Sarah Brown, 28, female, reported severe abdominal pain and nausea. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a stomach ulcer. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Sarah Brown, 28, female, reported severe abdominal pain and nausea. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a stomach ulcer. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
5	David Wilson	Medical	Open	2023-01-05	Illinois	David Wilson, 60, male, reported persistent back pain and numbness.	David Wilson, 60, male, reported persistent back pain and numbness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a herniated disc. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	David Wilson, 60, male, reported persistent back pain and numbness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a herniated disc. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	David Wilson, 60, male, reported persistent back pain and numbness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a herniated disc. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
6	Emily Davis	Medical	Open	2023-01-06	Ohio	Emily Davis, 30, female, reported severe anxiety and panic attacks.	Emily Davis, 30, female, reported severe anxiety and panic attacks. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anxiety disorder. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Emily Davis, 30, female, reported severe anxiety and panic attacks. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anxiety disorder. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Emily Davis, 30, female, reported severe anxiety and panic attacks. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anxiety disorder. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
7	Robert Miller	Medical	Open	2023-01-07	Georgia	Robert Miller, 45, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling.	Robert Miller, 45, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Robert Miller, 45, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Robert Miller, 45, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
8	Lisa Anderson	Medical	Open	2023-01-08	Arizona	Lisa Anderson, 50, female, reported persistent fatigue and weakness.	Lisa Anderson, 50, female, reported persistent fatigue and weakness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anemia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Lisa Anderson, 50, female, reported persistent fatigue and weakness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anemia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Lisa Anderson, 50, female, reported persistent fatigue and weakness. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with anemia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
9	James Taylor	Medical	Open	2023-01-09	Colorado	James Taylor, 38, male, reported severe skin rash and itching.	James Taylor, 38, male, reported severe skin rash and itching. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	James Taylor, 38, male, reported severe skin rash and itching. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	James Taylor, 38, male, reported severe skin rash and itching. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
10	Amanda White	Medical	Open	2023-01-10	Washington	Amanda White, 25, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling.	Amanda White, 25, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Amanda White, 25, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Amanda White, 25, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
11	Christopher Lee	Medical	Open	2023-01-11	Oregon	Christopher Lee, 40, male, reported severe vision problems and blurriness.	Christopher Lee, 40, male, reported severe vision problems and blurriness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with glaucoma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Christopher Lee, 40, male, reported severe vision problems and blurriness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with glaucoma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Christopher Lee, 40, male, reported severe vision problems and blurriness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with glaucoma. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
12	Michelle Garcia	Medical	Open	2023-01-12	Nevada	Michelle Garcia, 33, female, reported severe hair loss and thinning.	Michelle Garcia, 33, female, reported severe hair loss and thinning. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with alopecia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Michelle Garcia, 33, female, reported severe hair loss and thinning. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with alopecia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Michelle Garcia, 33, female, reported severe hair loss and thinning. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with alopecia. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
13	Kevin Martinez	Medical	Open	2023-01-13	Idaho	Kevin Martinez, 52, male, reported severe memory loss and confusion.	Kevin Martinez, 52, male, reported severe memory loss and confusion. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with dementia. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Kevin Martinez, 52, male, reported severe memory loss and confusion. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with dementia. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Kevin Martinez, 52, male, reported severe memory loss and confusion. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with dementia. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
14	Nicole Roberts	Medical	Open	2023-01-14	Montana	Nicole Roberts, 29, female, reported severe hearing loss and ringing in the ears.	Nicole Roberts, 29, female, reported severe hearing loss and ringing in the ears. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with tinnitus. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Nicole Roberts, 29, female, reported severe hearing loss and ringing in the ears. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with tinnitus. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Nicole Roberts, 29, female, reported severe hearing loss and ringing in the ears. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with tinnitus. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
15	Brandon Clark	Medical	Open	2023-01-15	Wyoming	Brandon Clark, 48, male, reported severe tooth pain and swelling.	Brandon Clark, 48, male, reported severe tooth pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a tooth abscess. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Brandon Clark, 48, male, reported severe tooth pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a tooth abscess. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Brandon Clark, 48, male, reported severe tooth pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a tooth abscess. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
16	Stephanie Hall	Medical	Open	2023-01-16	Utah	Stephanie Hall, 36, female, reported severe menstrual pain and irregular periods.	Stephanie Hall, 36, female, reported severe menstrual pain and irregular periods. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with endometriosis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Stephanie Hall, 36, female, reported severe menstrual pain and irregular periods. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with endometriosis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Stephanie Hall, 36, female, reported severe menstrual pain and irregular periods. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with endometriosis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
17	Gregory King	Medical	Open	2023-01-17	Alaska	Gregory King, 58, male, reported severe joint pain and stiffness.	Gregory King, 58, male, reported severe joint pain and stiffness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with osteoarthritis. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Gregory King, 58, male, reported severe joint pain and stiffness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with osteoarthritis. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Gregory King, 58, male, reported severe joint pain and stiffness. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with osteoarthritis. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
18	Heather Wright	Medical	Open	2023-01-18	Delaware	Heather Wright, 31, female, reported severe skin rash and itching.	Heather Wright, 31, female, reported severe skin rash and itching. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Heather Wright, 31, female, reported severe skin rash and itching. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Heather Wright, 31, female, reported severe skin rash and itching. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with an allergic reaction. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
19	Timothy Scott	Medical	Open	2023-01-19	South Dakota	Timothy Scott, 44, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling.	Timothy Scott, 44, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Timothy Scott, 44, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Timothy Scott, 44, male, reported severe leg pain and swelling. He was taken to the ER and diagnosed with a blood clot. He is currently in the hospital and recovering.
20	Christina Adams	Medical	Open	2023-01-20	North Dakota	Christina Adams, 27, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling.	Christina Adams, 27, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Christina Adams, 27, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.	Christina Adams, 27, female, reported severe joint pain and swelling. She was taken to the ER and diagnosed with arthritis. She is currently in the hospital and recovering.
21	Jonathan								

Name:

Remember to think about:

- Humour/fun
- Are they human?
- Appearance
- Personality
- Unusual features
- Similes and metaphors
- Interesting adjectives
- Dialogue

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Plan and write about a problem for your mystery story.

What is the problem?

Why does the problem occur?

Who is involved?

Where does the problem take place?

When will the problem be resolved?

How does the problem make the character(s) involved feel?

Write the problem portion of your story...

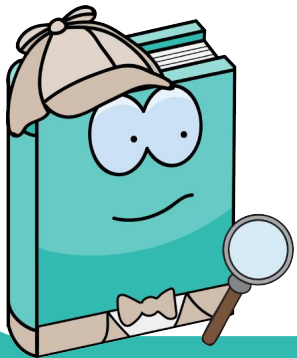
7

Once upon a time...

How you start your story is very important. The first few lines are essential because they make the reader want to read on. This is known as a 'hook'.

Start with...

- time
- a flashback
- a question
- describing a character
- describing a setting
- direct speech
- the weather
- a statement



Use the activity sheet to plan the perfect opening to your mystery story.

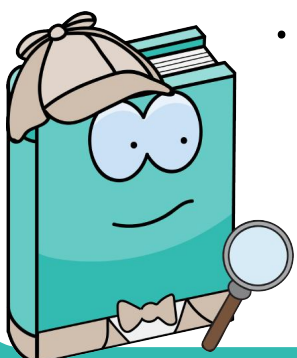
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8 Let's get planning!

The key to any great story is creating a story plan. This gives you the chance to get all your ideas down on paper and make changes, before you start writing.

Time to think about...

- characters
- settings
- vocabulary
- story opening
- the ending
- problems



Use the activity sheet to help you to plan your mystery story.

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7 Once upon a time...

Plan and write the opening to your story, including a hook.

What sort of 'hook' will you use?

- A flashback
- A question
- Description of a character or setting
- Direct speech
- The weather
- A statement
- Time

My Hook... _____

Who is my story about? _____

Where and when is it set? _____

What is going to happen? _____

My story opening... _____

Let's get planning!

Plan out your mystery story.

Characters

Settings

Vocabulary

How will my story begin? Think about your 'hook'.

What will the main problem(s) or event(s) be?

How will my story end?

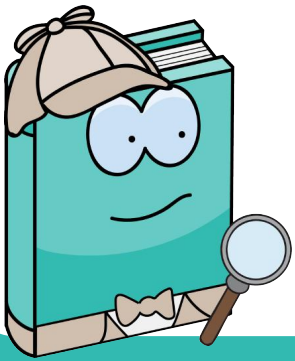
9 Storyboard time!

A great way to plan the events in your mystery story is by creating a story board.

This can help you to picture your story before you write it and help you to spot any problems with the story.

Your storyboard should show...

- opening
- characters
- settings
- problem
- resolution
- ending



Use the activity sheet to help create a storyboard for your mystery story.

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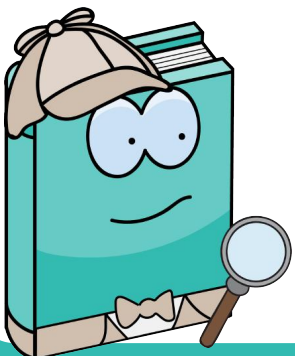


10 Make a list, check it twice!

Now you have all the skills you need to write the perfect mystery story, it's your turn to pass on that information.

Create a 'must have' checklist to help your friends write the perfect mystery story.

What does every great story need?



Use the activity sheet to help you to create your checklist.

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9 Storyboard time!

Create a storyboard for your mystery story.

10 Make a list, check it twice!

Create a 'must have' list for writing the perfect mystery story.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

What does every great mystery story need?