

Understanding key elements of narrative writing

Narrative is central to learning, especially for young children who develop their understanding through making up stories about what has happened and what might happen. Children use narrative to organise their ideas, structure their thinking and, ultimately, their writing. Telling and writing stories is not simply a set of skills for children to learn, but an essential means for them to express themselves in creative and imaginative ways.

Children need to be able to speak a story before they can write a story.

Key skills needed for telling stories are attention and listening skills, social skills, a range of vocabulary and memory skills

Definitions of narrative writing
<p>1. <u>Generic Narrative structure</u></p> <p>This can be expressed simply as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• opening that usually includes a setting and introduces characters• a series of events that build up• climax (problem and resolution)• conclusion
<p>2. Key elements of Narrative –</p> <p><i>Who, where, when, what happened next, and the end</i></p>
<p>Plot: the sequence of events that take place in a story.</p> <p>Setting: the time and place in which the events of a story take place.</p> <p>Characterization: the methods used to present the personality of a character in a narrative.</p> <p>Atmosphere: the general mood or feeling established in a piece of literature. Atmosphere is created through word choice and pacing.</p> <p>Point of View: who is narrating the story (2 main types: First Person, Third Person)</p> <p>☀ First person: the narrator uses "I" to tell the action, and is involved in the story.</p> <p>☀ Third person: the story is told from a perspective outside the story. The characters are referred to by name, or as he, she or they.</p>