

Crafting Your Adventure: A Story Writing Scaffold

Learning objective: To structure a narrative using effective paragraphing, descriptive language, and a clear plot arc.

Use this scaffold to plan and write your own original story. Think about how Max the monkey might approach the 'maths' of your plot—every story needs a beginning, a middle, and an end!

The ancient key sat heavy in my palm, its cold metal whispering secrets of a time long forgotten.

Word bank: consequently · furthermore · unexpectedly · in the distance · shimmering · meticulously · nevertheless · an eerie silence · a sudden realization

1. Introduction: Set the scene. Where are your characters? Describe the atmosphere using your senses. Start with: The morning air felt... (2 marks)

2. Inciting Incident: What is the main problem or mystery? Introduce an obstacle that disrupts the character's day. Start with: Without warning, the discovery of... (2 marks)

3. Rising Action: How does the character attempt to solve the problem? Build the tension here. Start with: Determined to find the truth, the protagonist decided to... (2 marks)

4. Climax: Write the most exciting moment of your story. How does the character face their biggest challenge? Start with: My heart hammered against my ribs as... (3 marks)

5. Resolution: How does the story end? Reflect on what the character has learned. Start with: As the sun began to set, it was clear that... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Challenge: Try to include a piece of dialogue between two characters that reveals something about their personality without explicitly saying how they feel.