

Year 7 English

Narrative Writing

Sprawl	Vigilant	Clamour
Sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out in an awkward way.	Keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.	A loud and confused noise, especially that of people shouting.

Conventions are the way a thing is normally done.

Narrative conventions are the features that are regular to see used in constructing a narrative.

Short stories use the same narrative conventions you may have studied during a Novel Study :

1. Plot and conflict
2. Setting
3. Characterisation
4. Point of view
5. Themes

Today, we will be exploring **plot and conflict**.

Conflict is the main problem that a character in a narrative faces.

There are five main types of conflict in narratives.

What are the five types of conflict?

The five types of conflict are:

EXTERNAL:

- Character vs character
- Character vs society
- Character vs nature/environment
- Character vs supernatural

INTERNAL:

- Character vs self

Point of View

1st person – Uses *I* and *me*.

2nd person – Uses *you*. Direct address (more commonly used in persuasive writing).

3rd person – Uses pronouns and names, and is very commonly used in descriptive writing.

Theme

- Ideas that are central to a story.
- Can often be summed in a single abstract noun.
- Eg. love, death, betrayal, nostalgia, or parenthood.

SHORT STORY CONVENTIONS

- Difference 1: Length and pacing
- Difference 2: Plots and subplots
- Difference 3: Complexity of conflict
- Difference 4: Timespan ...? Not necessarily
- Difference 5: Depth including number of characters

What makes up a short story plot?

- A plot is a series of events and character actions that relate to the central conflict. The conflict is a struggle between two people or things in a short story. The main character is usually on one side of the central conflict.

Now, we will read a short story together as a class.

Once we finish reading the story, we will have a Pair Share and Class Discussion on these points:

1. Which point of view is the story told from?
2. Why is this text a short story?
3. What events form the orientation of the story?
4. What are the rising action events?
5. What is the climax of the story?
6. What types of conflict can you identify in the text? Why?
7. Does it follow a 7 point plot structure?
8. Who are the main characters?

HINT!

1. **Short stories are short:** The plot moves quickly, and short stories reach a climax quickly.
2. **Fewer characters:** Short stories have fewer characters than novels. There may only be one or two characters in the text.
3. **Cliff hangers and endings which subvert:** Short stories can often end on cliff-hangers, and don't always need

Today we have learned:

- ✓ Narrative conventions include plot and conflict, setting, characterisation, point of view and theme.
- ✓ The main differences between short stories and narratives
- ✓ Short stories use a 7 point plot structure

Skill Closure

Fill in the blanks in your journals:

1. Plot structure begins with an o_____, series of r_____
a_____, reaches a c_____, followed by the f_____
a_____ and r_____.
2. The five types of conflict are: c_____ s_____ s_____ n_____ s_____.