



Introduction to Narrative Writing

Welcome to our lesson on Introduction to Narrative Writing and Character Development! In this lesson, we will explore the basics of narrative writing and character development, and learn how to create engaging stories with well-developed characters. As English Language Learners, you will have the opportunity to practice your language skills and develop your writing abilities.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Visual aids, such as diagrams and charts, will be used to illustrate key concepts and vocabulary.

Character Traits

What are some common character traits that you have seen in stories or movies? (e.g. brave, kind, loyal)

Can you think of a character who has one of these traits? Describe the character and why they have this trait.

Character Development

Character development is the process of creating and revealing character traits, motivations, and conflicts through a narrative. Well-developed characters are essential to creating engaging and believable stories.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Sentence frames will be provided to help students structure their writing.

Character Profile

Create a character profile, including traits, motivations, and conflicts.

Use the following sentence frames to help you:

- My character's name is _____ and they are _____.
- My character's motivation is _____.
- My character's conflict is _____.

Narrative Writing

Narrative writing is the process of telling a story through writing. It involves creating a plot, setting, and characters, and using descriptive language to bring the story to life.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Graphic organizers will be provided to help students structure their writing.

Short Story

Write a short story (approximately 250-500 words) about a character you have created.

Use the following graphic organizer to help you:

- Introduction: Introduce the character and setting
- Plot: Describe the events of the story
- Conclusion: Summarize the story and reflect on the character's development

Plot Development

Plot development is the process of creating a sequence of events that make up a narrative. It involves creating exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

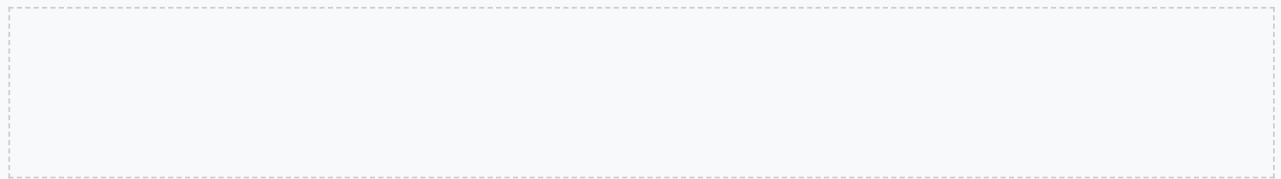
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Plot Diagram

Create a plot diagram to illustrate the events of a story.

Use the following diagram to help you:

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- Resolution: Summarize the story and reflect on the character's development



Peer Review and Editing

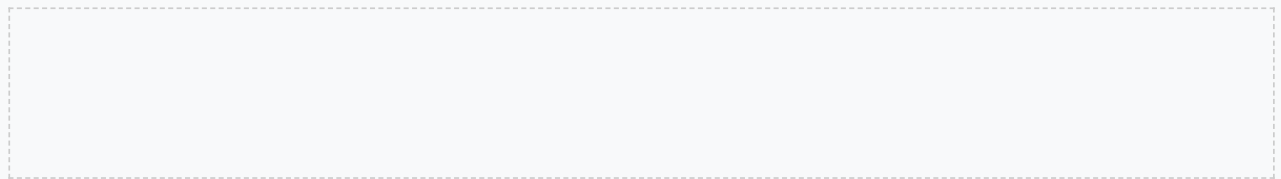
Peer review and editing are essential steps in the writing process. They involve reviewing and revising your work to ensure that it is clear, coherent, and engaging.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Sentence frames will be provided to help students structure their feedback.

Peer Review

Exchange your short story with a partner and provide feedback using the following sentence frames:

- I liked _____ about your story.
- I think you could improve _____.
- My favorite part of your story was _____.



Character Analysis

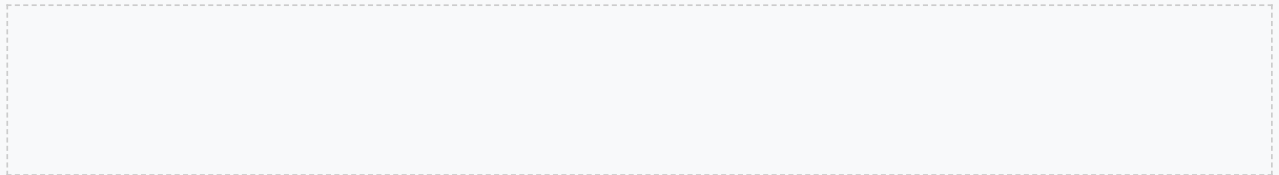
Character analysis is the process of analyzing a character's traits, motivations, and conflicts to understand their development throughout a narrative.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Graphic organizers will be provided to help students structure their analysis.

Character Analysis

Analyze a character from a story or movie using the following graphic organizer:

- **Traits:** Describe the character's physical and personality traits
- **Motivations:** Describe the character's motivations and goals
- **Conflicts:** Describe the character's conflicts and challenges



Writing Workshop

Writing workshops are a great way to practice your writing skills and receive feedback from peers.

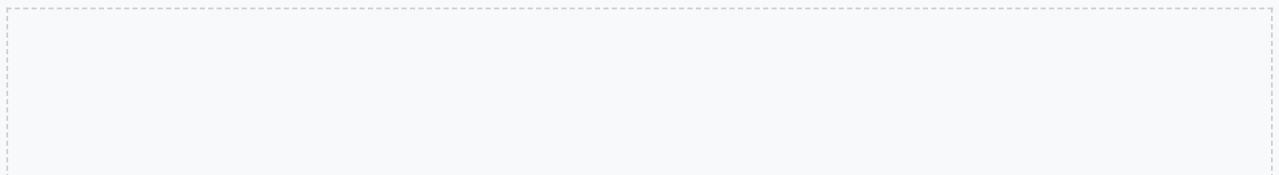
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Writing Workshop

Participate in a writing workshop where you will write a short story and receive feedback from peers.

Use the following visual aids to help you:

- **Writing prompts**
- **Graphic organizers**
- **Sentence frames**



Conclusion

Congratulations! You have completed our lesson on Introduction to Narrative Writing and Character Development.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Sentence frames will be provided to help students reflect on their learning.

Reflection

Reflect on what you have learned in this lesson using the following sentence frames:

- I learned _____ about narrative writing and character development.
- I think the most important thing I learned was _____.
- I would like to learn more about _____ in future lessons.

Assessment

Assessment is an essential part of the learning process. It helps you to evaluate your understanding of the material and identify areas for improvement.

ELL/ESL Support Strategy: Graphic organizers will be provided to help students structure their assessment.

Assessment

Complete a short assessment to evaluate your understanding of narrative writing and character development.

Use the following graphic organizer to help you:

- Multiple-choice questions
- Short-answer questions
- Essay question

Next Steps

What's next? You can continue to practice your writing skills and develop your knowledge of narrative writing and character development.

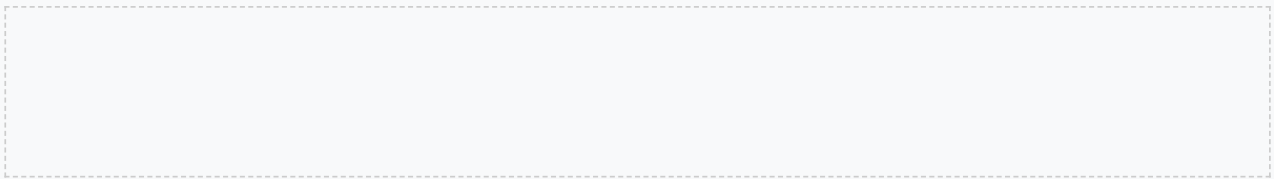
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Next Steps

Reflect on what you have learned in this lesson and think about how you can apply it to your future writing.

Use the following visual aids to help you:

- Writing prompts
- Graphic organizers
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Advanced Concepts

As we delve deeper into the world of narrative writing and character development, it's essential to explore advanced concepts that can elevate your writing to the next level. One such concept is the use of subtext, which refers to the underlying emotions, motivations, and conflicts that drive your characters' actions and dialogue. By incorporating subtext into your writing, you can create more nuanced and believable characters that resonate with your readers.

Case Study: The Use of Subtext in Literary Fiction

In the novel "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald, the character of Jay Gatsby is a masterclass in the use of subtext. On the surface, Gatsby appears to be a wealthy and charming socialite, but as the novel progresses, it becomes clear that he is driven by a deep-seated desire to win back his lost love, Daisy. This subtext is expertly woven throughout the narrative, revealing itself through Gatsby's actions, dialogue, and even his body language. By using subtext in this way, Fitzgerald creates a rich and complex character that has become an iconic figure in literary fiction.

Example: Using Subtext in Your Writing

To incorporate subtext into your own writing, try using the following techniques: show, don't tell; use action and dialogue to reveal character; and create tension and conflict through subtext. For example, instead of telling the reader that your character is angry, show their anger through their actions and dialogue. This will create a more nuanced and believable character that draws the reader into the story.

Character Development Techniques

There are several techniques you can use to develop your characters and create a more engaging narrative. One such technique is the use of character flaws, which can make your characters more relatable and human. Another technique is the use of backstory, which can provide depth and context to your characters' motivations and actions. By using these techniques, you can create well-rounded and believable characters that drive the plot forward and capture the reader's imagination.

Group Activity: Creating Character Flaws

In small groups, brainstorm a list of character flaws that could be used to create a more nuanced and believable character. Consider flaws such as fear, jealousy, or arrogance, and think about how these flaws could be used to create tension and conflict in the narrative. Then, choose one flaw and write a short scene that showcases this flaw in action.

Reflection: Character Development and Plot

Take a few minutes to reflect on how character development can impact the plot of a narrative. Consider how the characters' motivations, desires, and flaws can drive the plot forward and create tension and conflict. Think about how you can use character development techniques to create a more engaging and believable narrative, and brainstorm ways to incorporate these techniques into your own writing.

Plot Structure and Pacing

The plot structure and pacing of a narrative can make or break the story. A well-structured plot with a clear beginning, middle, and end can create a sense of tension and resolution, while a poorly structured plot can leave the reader feeling confused and unsatisfied. Pacing is also crucial, as it can create a sense of urgency and tension or slow down the narrative to build suspense. By using techniques such as foreshadowing, cliffhangers, and red herrings, you can create a plot that keeps the reader engaged and invested in the story.

Case Study: The Plot Structure of a Bestselling Novel

The novel "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn is a masterclass in plot structure and pacing. The novel's use of twists and turns, combined with its well-structured plot and expert pacing, creates a sense of tension and suspense that keeps the reader on the edge of their seat. By analyzing the plot structure and pacing of this novel, you can gain insights into how to create a compelling and engaging narrative that captures the reader's attention.

Example: Creating a Plot Outline

To create a plot outline, start by brainstorming the key events of your narrative. Consider the beginning, middle, and end of the story, and think about how the plot can be structured to create tension and resolution. Use a graphic organizer or outline to map out the

plot, and consider techniques such as foreshadowing and cliffhangers to create a sense of suspense and urgency.

Theme and Symbolism

Theme and symbolism are essential elements of a narrative, as they add depth and meaning to the story. Theme refers to the underlying message or idea that the narrative conveys, while symbolism refers to the use of objects, colors, or other elements to represent abstract ideas or concepts. By using theme and symbolism, you can create a rich and complex narrative that resonates with the reader on multiple levels.

Group Activity: Identifying Theme and Symbolism

In small groups, analyze a short story or novel and identify the theme and symbolism used in the narrative. Consider how the theme is developed throughout the story, and think about how the symbolism adds depth and meaning to the narrative. Then, brainstorm ways to incorporate theme and symbolism into your own writing, and write a short scene that showcases these elements in action.

Reflection: Theme and Symbolism in Your Writing

Take a few minutes to reflect on how theme and symbolism can be used in your own writing. Consider what message or idea you want to convey through your narrative, and think about how you can use symbolism to add depth and meaning to the story. Brainstorm ways to incorporate theme and symbolism into your writing, and think about how these elements can be used to create a rich and complex narrative that resonates with the reader.

Revision and Editing

Revision and editing are essential steps in the writing process, as they allow you to refine and polish your work. Revision involves making significant changes to the narrative, such as reorganizing the plot or developing characters, while editing involves making smaller changes, such as correcting grammar and punctuation. By using techniques such as peer review and self-editing, you can create a well-written and engaging narrative that captures the reader's attention.

Case Study: The Revision Process of a Published Author

The revision process of a published author can be a valuable learning experience, as it shows how even experienced writers must refine and polish their work. By analyzing the revision process of a published author, you can gain insights into how to improve your own writing and create a well-written and engaging narrative.

Example: Peer Review and Self-Editing

To revise and edit your work, start by exchanging your writing with a peer and asking for feedback. Consider using a peer review worksheet to guide the feedback process, and think about how you can use the feedback to improve your writing. Then, use self-editing techniques such as reading your work aloud or using a grammar and spell checker to refine and polish your narrative.

Publishing and Sharing Your Work

Once you have completed your narrative, you may want to consider publishing and sharing your work with others. There are many ways to publish your work, including traditional publishing, self-publishing, and online platforms. By sharing your work with others, you can gain feedback and recognition, and connect with readers who appreciate your writing.

Group Activity: Publishing and Sharing Your Work

In small groups, brainstorm ways to publish and share your work. Consider traditional publishing, self-publishing, and online platforms, and think about the benefits and drawbacks of each option. Then, write a short reflection on why you want to share your work with others, and what you hope to achieve through publishing and sharing your narrative.

Reflection: Publishing and Sharing Your Work



PLANIT
TEACHERS

Introduction to Narrative Writing and Character Development for English Language Learners

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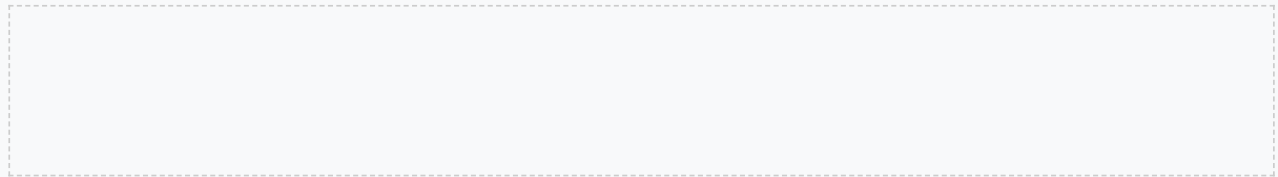
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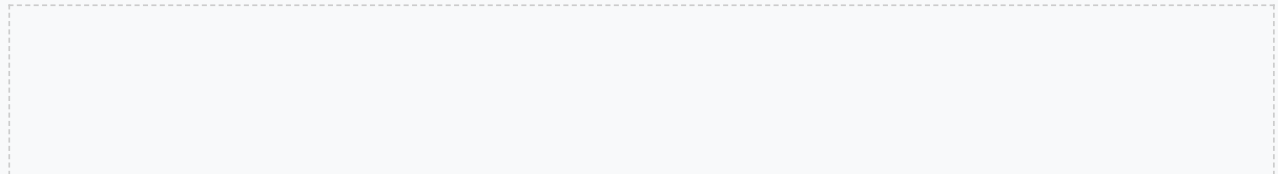
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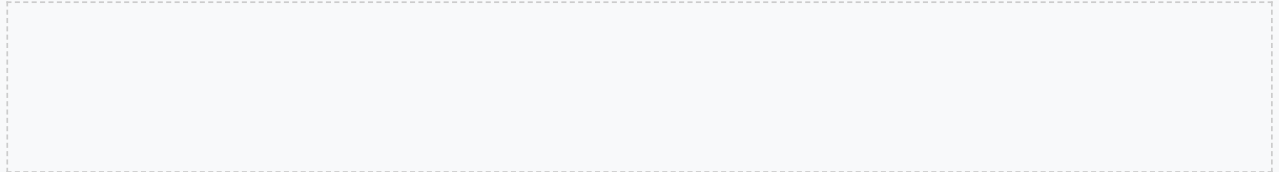
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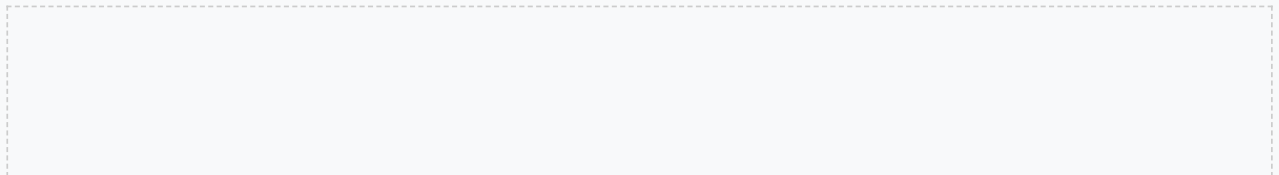
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