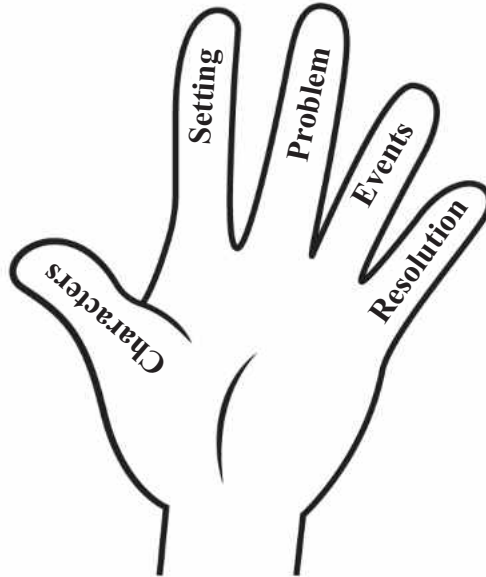


Story Writing

Introduction

A story has different parts. It is easy to remember by five finger retell



A story has different parts. It is easy to remember by five finger retell.

1. **Character:** who were the creatures, animals or people in the story?
2. **Setting:** where and when the story took place?
such as; Once upon a time two very close friends lived in a village.
The setting of the story could be changed throughout the story.
3. **Problem:** What was the problem that needs to be resolved?
4. **Events:** What happened in the beginning, middle and end of the story?
5. **Resolution:** How was the problem resolved or fixed?

A story planner accompanies the students to build the story. It helps them to organise the ideas into a meaningful text. Character, setting, events and resolution should be organised to catch the reader's interest.

Story Planner

Introduction • Introduction of the main characters • Introduction of the setting of the story.	
Build-Up • Develop the characters and the setting • The points that lead up to the conflict or climax (high point) in the story	
Conflict/Climax • The conflict or climax in the story • How do the characters react?	
Resolution • How is the conflict resolved and the story ends?	

Story Writing

Rubric for Story Writing

1. Structure of the story (Beginning, Middle and End)
2. Grammar
3. Vocabulary
4. Spellings
5. Tenses

Introduction

The young and the old, all enjoy hearing and reading stories. Interesting stories particularly appeal to everyone. Here are some important points which will go a long way in making the story interesting and impressive:

1. It should be in the past tense.
2. It should be written in simple English.
3. Check for grammar and spelling errors.
4. Add dialogues to make it impressive.
5. Review and revise after writing the first draft.

Developing a story from a given outline is easier than writing one on a heading or a moral. Whatever the case, the conclusion or the end should be handsomely drawn and moral (if any) should follow in a natural and clear way.

Specimen

Develop the following outline into a readable story:

A farmer had three sons --- they kept on quarrelling --- father advised again and again but to no effect --- fell seriously ill --- sent for the sons --- asked them to bring a handful of sticks --- tied them into a bundle --- asked them to break it turn by turn --- they all failed --- untied the bundle --- asks them to break sticks one by one --- they easily broke --- lesson --- united we stand, divided we fall.

Complete the Story

i. A Farmer and His Sons

Once a farmer had three grown-up sons. They always quarrelled among themselves. Their father advised them to live in peace but it had no effect on them. He was worried about their future. One day the farmer fell seriously ill. He sent for his sons. He asked them to collect a handful of sticks which they did at once. He tied the sticks into a bundle.

Now, he asked them to break the bundle one by one. They tried hard to break it but none could. At last, the farmer untied the bundle and asked each of them to break each stick. They did so quite easily. Their father said, “My dear sons, you could not break the sticks as long as they remained tied together but you broke each single stick quite easily. They were strong in bundle but became weak when separated from one another. Never forget that united we stand and divided we fall.”

This had a deep effect on the farmer's sons. They gave up quarrelling and began to live in peace.

ii. The Kindness of Rasoolullah (ﷺ)

Once the Rasoolullah (ﷺ) went out on a journey along with some of his companions. Birds were singing and chirping joyfully. One of the companions of the Rasoolullah (ﷺ) saw a nest in a bush. It was the nest of sparrows and there were two sparrow chicks in it. He picked up the young sparrow. All at once the sparrows came crying and began to fly over his head. The Rasoolullah (ﷺ) asked his companion why the sparrows were circling over his head. He told the Rasoolullah (ﷺ) that he had removed their young ones from their nest.

The Rasoolullah (ﷺ) was greatly moved. He (ﷺ) felt sorry for the poor little birds and advised his companion to put back the sparrow's chick in its nest at once, which he did. The sparrows felt happy and cried no more.

The Rasoolullah (ﷺ) was kind and affectionate not only to human beings but also to all creatures of the universe. For this very reason Allah Almighty was pleased to bestow upon him (ﷺ) the title of 'Benefactor of all the worlds.'

The Rasoolullah (ﷺ) also said, “Allah will not be kind to him who is not kind to others.”

iii. Robbers Turn into Good Citizens

Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Gillani (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) had to undertake a journey, when he was yet a young boy. His pious mother stitched up forty gold coins in his shirt. She advised her son to always speak the truth. He joined a caravan and set off on his journey. When the caravan entered a forest, a gang of robbers fell on the travellers and deprived them of all their valuables.

While they were busy robbing everyone, a robber happened to pass by the young boy. He said, “Do you have anything on you?” “Yes,” came the prompt reply, “I have forty gold coins.”

The robber asked the young boy to show the money, which he readily did. The robber

took the boy to the leader of the gang.

Like all other robbers, the leader was also surprised. He said, “Why did you not deny having money?” Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Gillani (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) told the robbers' Chief that his mother had advised him to speak the truth always. This had a deep effect on the Chief. He said, “Alas! I do not obey the commands of Allah while this little boy so faithfully follows the advice of his mother.”

Remorse became a guideline to show him the right path. He made up his mind to give up his bad ways of earning livelihood. He disbanded the gang and advised all the members to live an honest life. Thus, the example set by Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Gillani (رحمۃ اللہ علیہ) reformed all the robbers. He grew up to be a great religious leader and a pious saint. He is held in great esteem by millions of his followers and devotees. He is popularly known as Ghaus-ul-Azam Gillani.

Moral: Speak the truth always.

iv. The Muslim Brotherhood

Hazrat Muhammad (رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ) united the Muslims into a wonderful brotherhood. They were sincerely devoted to one another and made every sacrifice for other Muslims whoever and wherever they might be. They laid down their lives for their Muslim brethren.

Abu Jahan Bin Huzefa (رضی اللہ عنہ) told us a wonderful story. It is a true story, related to the battle of Yarmook, which showed their great love and sense of sacrifice for one another. He said, “I set out in search of my cousin who was fighting on the battle front. I carried a water-skin to offer water to the thirsty soldiers. I found him lying seriously injured. He was about to die. I asked him if he wanted water. My cousin nodded. I offered him a cup of water. Just then there came a cry for water from Hisham ibn al-A’as (رضی اللہ عنہ) who was about to die. My cousin asked me to give the cup to him. When I came to Hisham (رضی اللہ عنہ), another cry was heard from a mujahid, not far from the former two. Hisham (رضی اللہ عنہ) asked me to take the cup to him. I, therefore, went to the third one but he had breathed his last before he could drink. I hurried back to Hisham (رضی اللہ عنہ). He (رضی اللہ عنہ) had also lost his life. Then I rushed back to my cousin but he too had left for his heavenly home.” How great those good Muslims were indeed! In true spirit of Islam, Muslims worry about their brothers selflessly.

v. A Foolish Stag

One hot summer day, a stag went to a pool to drink water. The pool water was clear. It could see its reflection in the water. It felt proud of its beautiful horns. But when it saw the shadow of its thin legs, it felt sad and hated them. While it was still thinking of its ugly legs, it heard the sound of the horse's hoofs of a huntsman and the barking of hounds. It ran for its life

as fast as its legs could carry it. In no time it left the hounds far behind. Now it happened to pass through a thick forest. As it rushed through, its horns got caught in the branches of a tree. It struggled hard to free itself but all in vain. Meanwhile, the hunter and his hounds came close. The hounds were about to catch it, the stag struggled and managed to escape. The legs it hated had carried it away from the hounds. One of the horns broke but it managed to dodge the hunter. After losing the hunter, the stag was grateful of having thin legs and did not regret the appearance again..

Moral: Be grateful of what you have

vi. The Donkey Trapped in His Own Trick

A villager had a donkey. He earned his living by transporting goods from place to place on that donkey. One early morning, he loaded the donkey with salt and set off to the town. A stream ran across his way to the market. As the donkey walked through the stream it slipped and fell down. A good deal of salt was washed away and the donkey felt light. The donkey thought it was quite a good trick to make the load light.

Next morning, the man again loaded it with salt. The donkey played the same trick and got light. The master saw through the game and made up his mind to teach the donkey a good lesson. Now, on the third day he put a bale of cotton on the donkey. The silly animal tried the same trick once more. Soaked with water, the cotton load became much heavier than when it was dry.

Moral: The foolish donkey was punished for his bad intention..

vii. A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed

Once upon a time two very close friends lived in a village. As time passed their friendship grew stronger. Now they were grown up men. One day they decided to go and find work. They set off. Before leaving their village, they promised to stand by each other through thick and thin. They took oath of sincerity and assured each other of help in the hour of need. They had to pass through a jungle. They had not gone far into the thick forest when they found themselves face to face with a big bear. The beast began to move towards them. They felt helpless and terrified. One of them knew how to climb a tree. He at once caught hold of a strong branch and swung up the tree. The other could not climb. He had heard that the bear does not eat the dead. So he lay down on the ground and held his breath pretending to be dead. Meanwhile, the bear came to him and sniffed him. The bear left him. When the bear had gone out of sight, the friend on the tree came down. He asked his friend, "Dear friend, what did the bear whisper in your ear?" The other replied quickly, "The bear advised me not to trust a selfish friend." Saying this he left him and went away.

viii. A Faithful Friend

A hunter had a beautiful hound that always went hunting with him. The faithful dog was a fast friend of the hunter's only son who loved to play with the dog. The master also loved the hound for its friendship with his young son who was only ten years old. The master of the house had no one else in the house.

One day, the hunter went out hunting but forgot to take the hound with him. His son was still asleep in his bed. As he reached the edge of the forest he found that he had forgotten to bring the hound with him. He decided to go back and bring the hound. He came home but was afraid to see his hound all bloodstained standing at the gate. The hunter thought that the hound had harmed his son. He got very upset and tensed and chained it..

He quickly walked into the house and looked high and low for his son. Just then, he saw his son coming out of his room. The boy told his father that a wolf had come into the house and was about to kill him when the hound pounced upon it and tore it to pieces. The hunter began to cry and rushed back to the gate and took the hound to a vet. The hunter loved the hound as his most loyal friend.

ix. A Big Reward

Once a hungry wolf was devouring his prey. In a bid to finish it quickly, he swallowed a big bite of the flesh but a bone also went in and got stuck in his throat. It hurt him very much. So he decided to go to a crane to get help from him. He said, "Well dear friend, I am in a great trouble. Please pick out the bone in my throat." The crane was afraid lest the wolf should bite off his head. But the wolf assured him of safety and a big reward besides, for the service.

At last, the crane agreed to do the needful. It put its long beak into the throat of the wolf and pulled out the bone. The wolf was very happy now. The crane demanded the promised reward for his service. The wolf, at once, said, "Isn't it a big reward that I have not bitten off your head when it could not have escaped my teeth."The crane hopped away disappointedly.

x. The Tailor and the Elephant

A tailor ran a shop in a town. He was a good natured jolly fellow. A man in the town had a pet elephant. The elephant went drinking at a pool out of the town daily. It passed by the tailor's shop. The tailor gave him a bun every day. In course of time, they became good friends and were well pleased to meet each other. The tailor always waited for the elephant to come to him and the elephant was also there at the usual time.

One day, the tailor had a dispute with one of his customers. He was feeling unhappy

and cross. Meanwhile, the elephant arrived and put his trunk into his shop through the window to receive the friendly bun as usual. The tailor instead of giving a bun, pricked its trunk with a needle. The elephant felt hurt at this but silently went his way to drink.

The elephant quenched his thirst and then filled his trunk with dirty, muddy water. It came back quickly, put its trunk in, and emptied it. The whole shop looked as if it was plastered with mud. All the fancy dresses and rich wedding robes were mud-stained and badly spoiled. The tailor was sad but it was too late.

Moral: It is well said, "Look before you leap."

xi. The Boy Who Cried "Wolf"

There lived a shepherd boy in a village near a pasture. He collected sheep and goats belonging to the villagers and took them to the pasture to graze. This went on for quite a long time. All the villagers were well satisfied with the boy as he tended the flock carefully. Now everyone trusted the boy. By now he had grown up into a fine lad.

One fine morning, when he was busy looking after animals, it came to his mind to make fun of the villagers. So, he climbed up to the top of the hill and cried aloud, "Wolf! Wolf!" the villagers rushed to the pasture to save the boy and the flock. They came armed with sticks. When they saw the boy, they inquired about the wolf. The naughty boy began to laugh. Everyone was angry with the silly boy and went back grumbling.

After a few days, the boy repeated his trick. The worried villagers rushed for his help and found the boy laughing on the villagers. This time the villagers were highly displeased by him and decided again.

One day the boy took sheep and goats to the pasture as per the routine. This time the wolf did come and he cried, 'Wolf' at top of his voice. The villagers could hear his cries but they thought he was joking again. No one came to his help. The wolf not only killed some sheep and goats, but had injured the boy. He learnt his lesson and never tricked anyone again.

Moral: No one trusts a liar.

xii. The Jester and the King

Once upon a time a king had a jester in his court. The king was so fond of him that the jester enjoyed every kind of liberty of speech. He did not even spare the lords and ministers. So much so that he began to ridicule even the king but no one could dare to complain against him. This made the jester bold and proud. He cared for none.

One day while the king was holding a court and was busy in serious state affairs, the

jester made fun of the king. Dead silence fell on the court. The king got highly offended and sentenced the jester to treason. The jester bent down over his knees and begged for mercy but the king was so angry that he turned down his request.

At last, when the jester pleaded for mercy again and again, the king said, "Die you must but I grant you the freedom to choose the kind of death you like."

The clever jester at once used his ready wit and took good advantage of the concession saying, "Your Majesty! I choose to die of old age." The king was impressed and forgave the jester with a warning for future.

Moral: It never pays to overreach yourself.

EXERCISE

Develop stories from the given outlines.

1. A dog steals a piece of meat ... runs away ... comes to a bridge ... calm and clear water under the bridge ... sees his reflection. Thinks another dog with a bigger piece of meat ... barks at it ... loses his own piece as well.
2. A hungry fox goes about in search of food ... reaches a garden ... bunches of ripe grapes hanging down a high wall ... tries to reach again and again but cannot get at them ... goes away disappointed.
3. A merchant earns a large sum of money by selling his goods ... has to go a long way ... already getting dark ... a nail falls from his horse's shoe, the inn boy warns him ... does not care ... hurries away ... horse becomes lame ... robbers appear ... kill him and make away with the money.
4. A tiger kills a woman with a gold bangle ... keeps it ... one day a man comes there ... stands on the bank of stream ... gets ready to cross ... the tiger appears ... man afraid ... tiger tells him that it has become pious and keeps praying ... offers the bangle ... the greedy man falls prey to the tiger.
5. A flock of pigeons comes flying to vast green fields ... look down ... see plenty of food grain ... ask their chief to alight ... does not agree ... fears lest hunter should have set net ... pigeons say fear imaginary only ... they land and are caught in the net ... they cry, "O chief, what shall we do now?" he says "Well dear friends, now exert together; pull the net up and fly away with it." They follow the advice and are saved.
6. A kind hearted man passes through a forest ... finds a tiger caught in a trap. The tiger begs for his help to get out ... the man afraid of the beast ... at last sets him free ... the tiger knocks him down - the man calls tiger ungrateful ... both go to papal tree for

opinion ... the tree says man ungrateful ... they go to bullock ... it upholds the decision of papal tree ... next they ask a jackal. It says how that big beast could be contained in that small cage. The tiger jumps into the cage to prove. The jackal shuts ... the man goes away thanking the jackal.

7. A farmer has four lazy sons ... do nothing ... he advises them to work ... they do not follow ... the farmer falls seriously ill ... calls all the sons ... tells them of a treasure lying buried somewhere in the fields and passes away ... his sons dig deep the field ... bumper crop ... realize the wisdom of their father ... become rich.
8. A young cricket sings on merrily throughout spring and summer ... winter comes ... snow covers everything ... no food for winter ... begins to starve ... goes to ant living close by ... begs for food ... ant says, "We ants neither lend nor borrow." The ant asks why it did not store food for winter in summer, cricket replies, "I sang away the summer." The ant says, "Now dance away the winter. No work, no food."
9. A rich man riding in a four horse carriage ... has his family and a servant with him ... passes through a forest ... hungry wolves attack ... let's loose two horses one by one but the wolves come up again ... the faithful servant draws his sword and jumps down ... fights with the wolves. The rich man and his family gain time and escape.
10. A lion kills many animals ... all animals terrified ... a hare offers to save them ... reaches the den of the lion late ... lion asks in rage why so late? The hare tells the lion of another lion who stopped him ... lion asks the hare to take him to the other lion ... the hare takes him to a well ... lion sees his reflection jumps down and is drowned.