

WRITE A STORY

A narrative presents a connected series of events, either imaginary or based on your own experience, in a vivid descriptive style. It may be written in the first person (I/we) or third person (he/she/etc), and often includes the thoughts, reactions, etc of the main character(s), describing the action as it would be seen through their eyes.

- A good narrative should consist of:
 - a) an **introduction** which sets the scene (place, time, character(s), etc), creates an interesting mood/atmosphere to make the reader want to continue reading, and/or begins dramatically to capture the reader's attention;
 - b) a **main body** which develops the series of events clearly, gives vivid description of the people/places involved, etc; and
 - c) a **conclusion** which completes the story, perhaps in an unexpected way, and may describe people's feelings/reactions, the consequences of what happened, etc.



Past Tenses and Time Words

- **PAST HABITS** are not described using Past Continuous. Instead, use Past Simple, "used to" or "would", with an appropriate adverb of frequency.

e.g. *When I was a child, my father often (etc) told/sometimes used to tell/ would always tell me stories to get me to fall asleep.*

Adverbs of Frequency: **always - usually - frequently/often -sometimes/ occasionally - seldom/rarely - never**

- **PAST CONTINUOUS** is used to talk about an action in the past which:
 - was going on at the same time as another action
 - was interrupted by another action
 - happened at an exact time

e.g. *I was watching TV while he was trying to phone.
when there was a knock on the door.
at 3 o'clock yesterday.*

Time Words/Phrases: **(at the same time) as - meanwhile - when - while**

- **PAST PERFECT** is used to talk about an action which happened before another past action.

e.g. *By the time I arrived, my friends had already left.*

Time Words/Phrases: **after - as soon as - before - by the time - no sooner - not until - once - (only) when**

Your English teacher has asked you to write a story. Your story must begin with this sentence.

The friends found a strange old map under the bed.

Write your **story** in about 100 -150 words.

Introduction

Paragraph 1

set the scene
(who/what/when/where)

Main Body

Paragraphs 2 - 3 - 4

develop the story
(describe incidents leading up to the main event and the event itself in detail, describe people/places, emotions/actions/etc)

Conclusion

Final Paragraph

end the story

(complete the plot;
describe feelings/reactions;
explain the consequences)