

Comprehensive Writing Task

- Story starter
- Plot prompts
- Template with scaffolding
- Printable and digital version



A CHRISTMAS JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD

Sophie loved going on a different adventure every year at Christmas time. She had spent past Christmases in Egypt next to the pyramids, swimming with turtles in the Galapagos Islands, and climbing to the top of Mt Fuji.

The reason Sophie loved to travel so much was because she had a magical snow globe. Each year at Christmas time, it transported her to a new destination! Sophie was always excited to find out where it would take her.

On Christmas Eve, Sophie packed her bags. She had to pack carefully because she never really knew where she would go and what she would do.

Sophie had a feeling that this Christmas adventure was going to be extra special. Smiling with delight, she gave the snow globe a shake, closed her eyes, and felt herself magically transporting across the world.

Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh.

CHOOSE ONE

- The paint peeled in the sun, and it needs a new coat.
- The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.
- The wooden seat broke and needs to be repaired.

WRITE ABOUT THE SLEIGH

Write about Sophie looking at the sleigh.

How does Santa explain what happened?

How can Sophie help?

What do they need to get to repair the sleigh?

Story starter reduces cognitive load

Scaffolded template with writing tips

Plot prompts spark imagination

Digital version

Printable Version

Continue the story plot

Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh.



CHOOSE ONE

The paint peeled in the sun, and it needs a new coat.

The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.

The wooden seat broke and needs to be repaired.

WRITE ABOUT THE SLEIGH

3 plot prompt choices

Write about Sophie looking at the sleigh.

How does Santa explain what happened?

How can Sophie help?

What do they need to get to repair the sleigh?

Space to draft, plan, or write the story

Scaffolded template with writing tips



Digital Version

The image shows a digital interface for creating a story. At the top, a green header bar contains the title "Digital Version". Below this, a black bar displays the prompt "Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh." To the right of the prompt is a small illustration of Santa Claus. Three green callout boxes with arrows point to specific features: "Continue the story plot" points to the top bar; "3 plot prompt choices" points to the three options below the prompt; "Drag and drop icon to select a plot prompt" points to a star icon on the left. The three plot options are: "Make a plot choice and drag the circle around it" (circled in yellow), "The paint peeled in the sun, and it needs a new coat.", and "The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.". Below these options is a section titled "Write about what happens" with the instruction "Type your story here.". A large green callout box labeled "Editable space to type" points to this section. On the left side, a vertical green bar contains a "Scaffolded template with writing tips" section, which includes prompts like "Write about how he is looking at the sleigh.", "How does Santa explain what happened?", "Can Sophie help?", and "What do they do to get the sleigh repaired?". A green callout box labeled "Scaffolded template with writing tips" points to this section. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular logo for "Cat's Classroom Creations" featuring a cat's face.

Continue the story plot

Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh.

3 plot prompt choices

Make a plot choice and drag the circle around it

The paint peeled in the sun, and it needs a new coat.

The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.

The wooden seat broke and needs to be repaired.

Write about what happens

Type your story here.

Editable space to type

Scaffolded template with writing tips

Write about how he is looking at the sleigh.

How does Santa explain what happened?

Can Sophie help?

What do they do to get the sleigh repaired?



Writing Prompts

- Provide choice for students to be creative
- Reduce the burden of thinking of ideas
- Students can enjoy the writing process



Choose a villain who chases Sophie and Santa in the sleigh.

CHOOSE ONE 

Frostbite the Ice King: a snowman who rules the North Pole but festivity.	Kringle the Clockmaker: an inventor who once helped Santa but is now an enemy.	Greta the Gift Snatcher: a reckless elf who was fired from workshop duties.
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WRITE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS

Continue the story by introducing a villain.

What does the villain do?

What does the villain say?

Is this villain an enemy of Santa? Have they met before?

A deep voice boomed behind them as the sleigh flew through the sky.

"I know that voice!" Santa looked afraid. "It's Kringle - and he isn't happy to see me!"

No more hearing
"I don't know
what to write..."

Create a Character

- Use the theme to create a character
- Support students in adding a detailed description of the character

THE STORY CONTINUED... 

"Sophie!" A loud voice greeted her. Sophie opened her eyes.
"I'm so glad you're here!"

"Where is here?" Sophie asked. She was feeling very confused.
"And who are you?"

"I'm Santa, of course!" The loud voice replied. Sophie felt silly she didn't recognize him straight away! Without his red suit on, Santa looked a lot different.

Sophie looked around. They were at the beach!

"Welcome to Bondi Beach, in Australia!" Santa said. "I came here for a holiday, but something has happened to my sleigh. We need to fix it before it's Christmas and the world!"

"Of course I can help," Sophie said. "But I'm not sure we can fix it in time."

Santa and Sophie worked hard for this task. It was a Christmas adventure!

Fill in some details for your story. 

ABOUT SOPHIE

Sophie's age:	Sophie's likes and dislikes:	Something important Sophie packed in her bag:

WRITE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT SOPHIE

Add character detail early in the story



Scaffolded Template

- The template has writing tips for students
- Guide students in adding detail to their draft
- Support the writing process

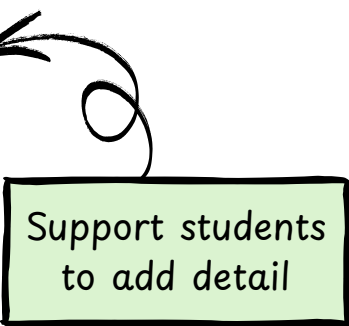


Choose a villain who chases Sophie and Santa in the sleigh.

CHOOSE ONE 

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WRITE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS

Continue the story by introducing a villain. What does the villain do? What does the villain say? Is this villain an enemy of Santa? Have they met before?	
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Spark Imagination

- Reduce cognitive load by providing a story starter
- Provide plot choices as the story progresses
- Prompt students to add details as they write

Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh.

CHOOSE ONE

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The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.

The wooden seat broke and needs to be repaired.

WRITE ABOUT THE SLEIGH

Write about Sophie looking at the sleigh.

How does Santa explain what happened?

Each section of the plot has 3 choices

Choose what happened to Santa's sleigh.

Make a plot choice and drag the circle around it

The paint peeled in the sun, and it needs a new coat.

The hooks to attach the reindeer have rusted and need replacing.

The wooden seat broke and needs to be repaired.

Write about what happens

Type your story here.

How will your students choose to finish the story?



Multiple Uses

- Narrative writing unit
- Guided writing process
- Independent writing task
- Group writing task
- Intervention task

