

STORY OUTLINES

Ready-To-Write Narratives

YOU'LL GET . . .

- 20 Printable Story Outlines (in both ½ sheet and full sheet size)
- Blank Story Outline Card for use when reading and summarizing someone else's story
- 5 Story Planning Graphic Organizers
- Digital Slideshow for Teacher Modeling

TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF STORYTELLING!

This resource is perfect for students who may need to practice writing a story *without* all the stress of conjuring up the characters, conflict, and plot.

THE WAFFLE IRON DISASTER		
 SETTING The kitchen counter	 MAIN CHARACTER Quinn	 GOAL AND MOTIVATION
 Saturday morning	Overly confident in the kitchen and hates asking for help.	Wants to make the family a huge batch of perfect chocolate chip waffles to surprise them when they wake up.
 Chilly morning		
 CONFLICT Quinn uses way too much batter, and the waffle maker overflows. The batter spills everywhere, and smoke starts coming from the iron, but is afraid to wake the parents.	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TRIES ... 1. Tries to scrape the batter out with a metal fork FAILS BECAUSE ... 2. Tries to hide the mess by throwing a towel over the iron  SOLUTION THAT WORKS: Quinn wakes up Dad and tell him what happened, asking for a safe way to clean it.	 LESSON LEARNED Safety and honesty are more important than being perfect or hiding mistakes.

Includes plot sequencing

Includes character traits as well as goal, motivation, and conflict

BUILD NARRATIVE WRITING SKILLS

Since your students won't have to worry about **WHAT** to write, you can focus on teaching **HOW** to write a great story. This lets you spend your valuable teaching time on the individual writing skills your students need to master this year.

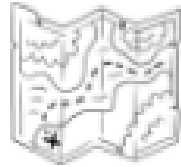
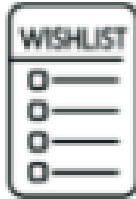
Practice key skills like:

Writing dialogue

Using sensory details to
describing the setting

Hooking the reader from the
start with a strong opening line

Showing character
traits and growth

THE MYSTERY OF THE GLITCHING GAME		
 SETTING The living room sofa right in front of the TV.	 MAIN CHARACTER Sofia	 GOAL AND MOTIVATION
 Saturday afternoon	Loves video games but is easily distracted and rushes through instructions.	Wants to beat the final level of her favorite new video game, "Star Racer," in order to earn the golden ship skin.
 Stormy weather outside		
 CONFLICT	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TRIES ... 1. Tries shaking the console, tapping on the game disc 2. Restarts the whole game and tries to rush through FAILS BECAUSE ...	 LESSON LEARNED
Every time she gets close to the end, the game glitches and freezes, forcing her to start over. She thinks the game disc is broken.	SOLUTION THAT WORKS: She reads the tiny instructions booklet (which she ignored before) and realizes she was hitting a certain special move button at the wrong time, causing the glitch.	Reading instructions and paying close attention to details can solve problems that seem impossible.

FOLD INTO TABLE TENTS WRITING STATIONS

2 DIFFERENT STORIES PER PAGE

Partner A
sees & writes
“The Polluted
Pond Secret”

SETTING A small, quiet pond in the center of a city park, with a slightly green and scummy surface. Weekend Warm and sunny	MAIN CHARACTER Willow Cares deeply about animals and the environment.	GOAL AND MOTIVATION Wants to figure out why the water is suddenly murky and smelly, so she can stop whatever is hurting the ducks and turtles.
CONFLICT She can't figure out the source of the problem, and a busy park worker tells her it's just old leaves.	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL FAILS BECAUSE ... TRIES ... 1. Tries to use a net to scoop the debris out 2. Asks everyone passing by if they noticed anything strange SOLUTION THAT WORKS: She walks to the storm drain that connects to the pond and finds a pile of old paint buckets someone dumped.	LESSON LEARNED Solving a big problem often means finding the hidden source, not just cleaning up the visible mess.

SETTING The kitchen and dining room Mild day	MAIN CHARACTER Marcus Very energetic and clumsy when he is under pressure to behave perfectly.	GOAL AND MOTIVATION Wants to help his mom serve the important dessert without dropping it, in order to prove he is mature enough for a big job.
CONFLICT Marcus trips over the rug and sends the entire cake sliding off the tray and onto the floor.	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL FAILS BECAUSE ... TRIES ... 1. Tries to scoop the cake back onto the plate 2. Tries to run and hide in his bedroom SOLUTION THAT WORKS: He realizes he can't fix the cake, so he grabs simple ingredients to quickly create a new "dessert platter" to replace the cake.	LESSON LEARNED When you make a big mistake, honesty and quick thinking are better than hiding or panicking.

Partner B
sees & writes
“The Dinner
Table Disaster”

CUT INTO TASK CARDS FOR WRITING SCOOT OR INDEPENDENT WRITING TIME

THE DARK SIDE OF CAMPFIRE HILL



SETTING

A summer camp site deep in the woods, around a big campfire



Nighttime



Starting to get cold outside



MAIN CHARACTER

Chloe

Afraid of the dark and anything that moves quickly.



GOAL AND MOTIVATION

Wants to prove she is brave enough to hike to the "Campfire Hill" alone to find a dropped item.



CONFLICT

Chloe's favorite sweater (which has a special patch) was left on the hill, and the counselors said no one can go up after dark. She must go alone, and the woods look scary.

SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL

TRIES ...

1. Tries to get someone to go with her
2. Tries to use phone flashlight



SOLUTION THAT WORKS: She finally stops, takes a deep breath, turns off the bright, shaky light, and lets her eyes adjust, using the moonlight to guide her.



FINISH

The imagination is scarier than the steady movement of fear.

THE SECRET OF THE PAINTED ROCK

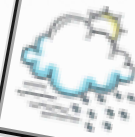


SETTING

The school playground, near the quiet corner where the big oak tree stands.



Morning recess



Sunny day



MAIN CHARACTER

Sam

Very sensitive and worried about fitting in.



GOAL AND MOTIVATION

Wants to keep a secret shared by his best friend **because** he wants to prove he is a trustworthy best friend.

The Secret: Sam's friend painted a mural on a rock wall that he shouldn't have.



CONFLICT

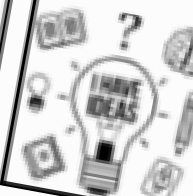
A group of older kids saw Sam and his friend near the wall and are teasing Sam, trying to get him to say who painted it.

The principal is asking questions.

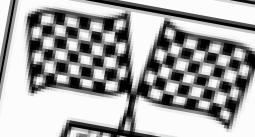
SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL

TRIES ...

1. Tries to change the subject
2. Tries to blame the older kids



SOLUTION THAT WORKS: He finally tells Leo that they should just be honest together, even if it means a small punishment.



FINISH

LESSON LEARNED

True friendship means doing the right thing, even when it's scary, and honesty is the best policy.

INCLUDES **20** UNIQUE STORY OUTLINES

DRAW YOUR SETTING

SKETCH AND CAPTION YOUR STORY

PLAN YOUR PLOT

BEGINNING

Introduce the character, setting, and problem

MIDDLE

The main character unsuccessfully tries to solve their problem or makes the problem even worse

END

The main character finally solves their problem and maybe learns great a life lesson

5 PLANNING GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

USE SENSORY LANGUAGE

MAKE YOUR WRITING SHINE

Using your 5 senses to describe the setting and action is like adding special effects to a movie so the reader can actually picture and experience the story, not just read the words!

Instead of saying... The house was old.
Try this... The house was shadowy and crooked, with chipped moss-colored paint.

Instead of saying: The lemonade was good. **Try this...** The tart, icy lemonade made my lips pucker and my tongue tingle.



WHAT DOES YOUR CHARACTER SEE?



WHAT DOES YOUR CHARACTER HEAR?



WHAT DOES YOUR CHARACTER SMELL?



WHAT DOES YOUR CHARACTER TOUCH?

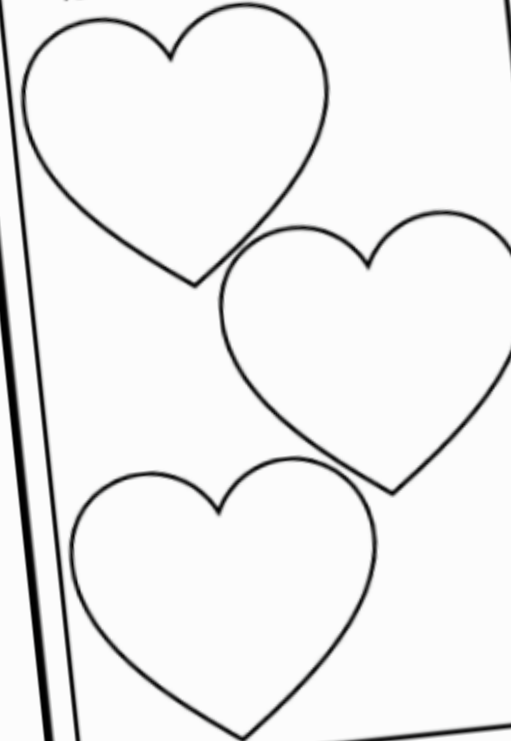


WHAT DOES YOUR CHARACTER TASTE?

CREATING YOUR MAIN CHARACTER

EMOTIONS

What emotions will your character feel during this short story?



CHARACTER THOUGHTS

What will your character think but not say?



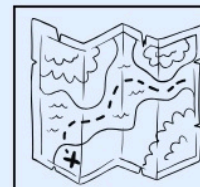
DIALOGUE

What will your character say aloud?



USE DIGITAL SLIDES FOR MODELING & CLASS DISCUSSION

THE LUNCH TABLE TAKEDOWN



SETTING

A loud, crowded
school cafeteria



Lunch break



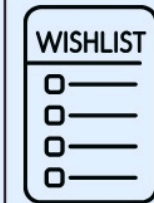
Nice spring day



MAIN CHARACTER

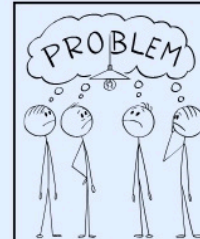
Liam

Quiet and prefers to avoid
attention and conflict.



GOAL AND MOTIVATION

Wants to be able to eat his lunch
in peace without a class bully
stealing his dessert (his special
treat from home). He **wants** to
stand up for himself without
yelling **so that** he doesn't make a
big scene.



CONFLICT

The bully walks over and grabs
Liam's cookie right off the tray and
starts mocking him.

SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL

TRIES ...

1. Tries to ignore
the bully
2. Tries to tell the
lunch monitor

FAILS BECAUSE ...



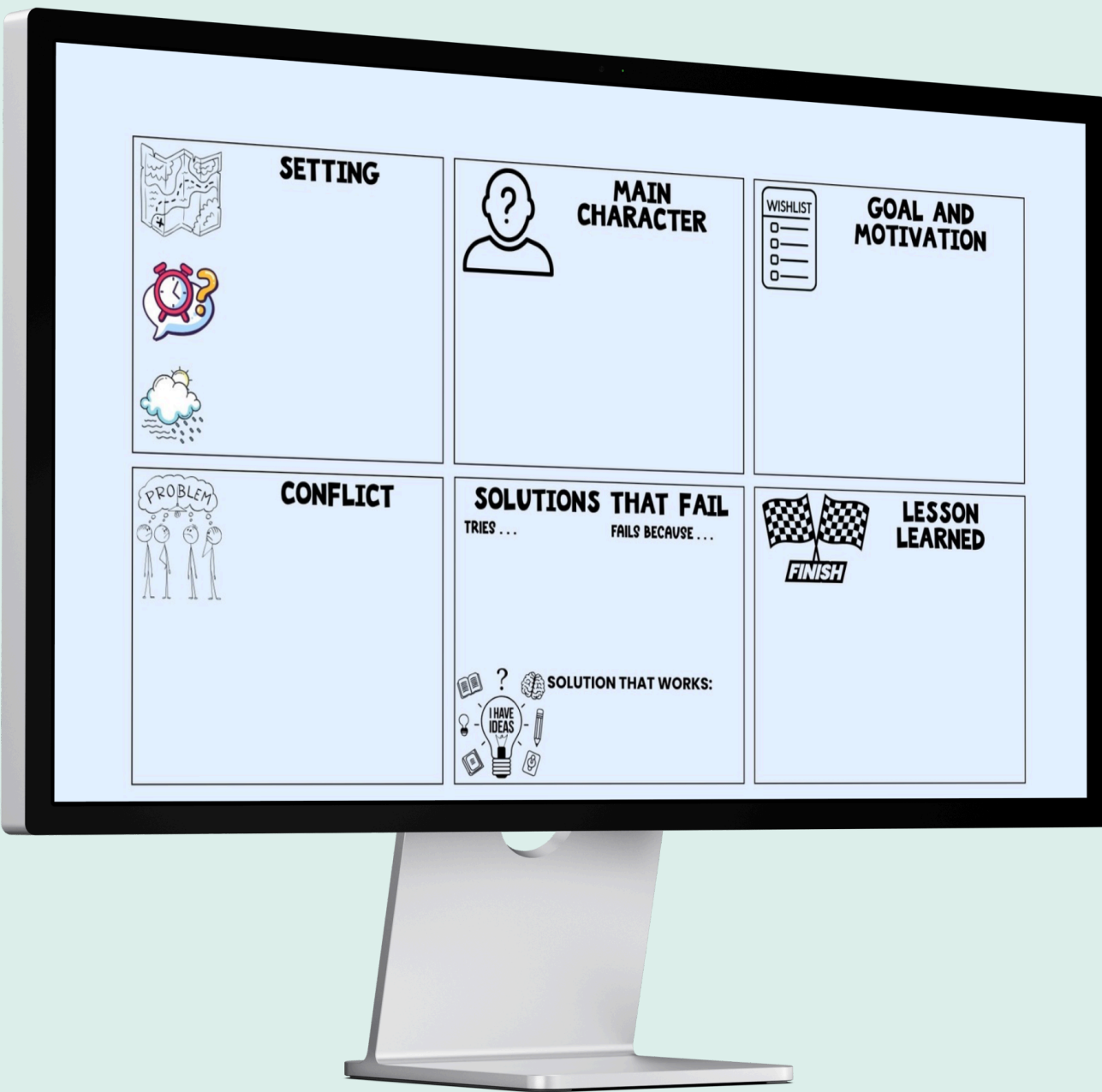
SOLUTION THAT WORKS:
Liam looks the bully directly
in the eye and, in a clear,
calm, and steady voice,
simply states, "That is my
cookie. Give it back."



LESSON LEARNED

You can be powerful and strong
without fighting or yelling; a calm
voice can be heard the loudest.

COMES WITH BLANK STORY OUTLINE CARDS



 SETTING 	 MAIN CHARACTER	 GOAL AND MOTIVATION
 CONFLICT	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TRIES ... FAILS BECAUSE ...	 LESSON LEARNED
KEYWORDS:		

 SETTING 	 MAIN CHARACTER	 GOAL AND MOTIVATION
 CONFLICT	SOLUTIONS THAT FAIL TRIES ... FAILS BECAUSE ...	 LESSON LEARNED
KEYWORDS:		

Use blank story outline cards to ...

- record story details in a mentor text before writing a summary
- brainstorm details for a brand new story

WANT MORE FROM iTeach and iWrite ?

Betsy Newmeyer

You'll Love These Resources!

SENSORY DETAILS



crispy



flickering



embarrassment



Sweet!



freshly baked bread



train whistle



drenched

PERSUASIVE

READY-TO-USE ESSAY OUTLINES

★ Students should wear hats in school

- Expresses personality
 - Show unique style
 - Fun accessories
- Keeps heads warm
 - Cold classrooms
 - Comfort during winter
- Doesn't harm learning
 - Small personal choice
 - No distraction cause

★ Respects personal choice and comfort

17



★ The social media age minimum should be 16

- Protect mental health
 - Avoid cyberbullying
 - Less stress, comparison
- Prevent inappropriate content
 - Shield from adult topics
 - Safer online space
- More focus on real life
 - Play outside, talk to friends
 - Develop hobbies

★ Ensures safety and focus

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