



Purpose

Narrative is the art of story telling. Use a variety of techniques to entertain and engage the reader.

English writing genres

Narrative writing

Additional language features

- Descriptive and precise language is used to create images in the reader's mind.
- Include dialogue to advance the action.
- Use the senses: what can be heard, seen, smelt, felt, tasted?
- Use a variety of sentence starters:
 - adverb
 - subordinate clause
 - preposition phrases
 - participle (present or past)
 - simile
- Figurative language is used to enrich the prose: personification, onomatopoeia, alliteration, metaphor and simile.

Features of narrative writing:

- Effective use of adjectives and adverbs bring the story to life; wherever possible they make the characters seem real.
- There is cohesion in the writing – it links together so the story flows (using sentence starters, a range of sentence types, pronouns to link to previous nouns, and synonyms and synonymous phrases such as 'the scrawny child').
- The writer uses show not tell.
- Paragraphs are used to show: a new event; a change of speaker; a change of time or place.
- The beginning is effective, often setting the scene with powerful imagery.
- A strong final sentence is used to end the piece with drama.

Synonyms for said (a tiny few)

Accused, admitted, advised, agreed, assured, babbled, beamed, cautioned, chided, claimed, continued, declared, demanded, denied, explained, expressed, gasped, grunted, hinted, insisted, lied, maintained, pleaded, prayed, proclaimed, recognised, reminded, repeated, threatened, wailed, whimpered, whined, whispered

Useful words and phrases

How to start a sentence:

- Adverb: Suddenly,
- Subordinate clause: As the sun gave out her last light,
- Preposition phrase: Behind the tree, a silent figure stood. . .
- Participle (past or present):
 - Distraught, (past)
 - Fleeing blindly, (present)
- Simile: Like a snake, she crawled silently. . .

Co-ordinating conjunctions

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Subordinating conjunctions (some)

After, although, as, as though, because, before, even though, if, in order to, just as, once, provided that, rather than, since, though, unless, until, when, whenever, whereas, wherever, whether, while