

What Is a Narrative?

A narrative is often thought of as a **story** with a beginning, middle and end. As they get more complex, they have a little more to them than that. We'll have a look on the next slide.

Most narratives are fictional (made up) but in the same way that movies can be 'based on a true story', sometimes writers use the narrative form to tell true stories, such as memoirs or personal narratives.

In the beginning of a narrative, you should introduce important information.

Try to include:

- the main characters
- the relationships between them
- the setting

It's okay if what you introduce changes throughout the story. Usually, no major plot developments happen at the beginning.

The Set-up

The Development Usually the second quarter of a narrative introduces a plot development where something good, or promising-looking, is happening. You also usually explain a bit more about the characters.

But something is about to go wrong!



At this point, something has gone terribly wrong, and your characters should be in a situation which is challenging for them in some way.

The Resolution

To finish off your narrative in a positive way, there should be a solution to whatever went terribly wrong. Have you heard the adage, 'what doesn't kill you makes you stronger'? Often, your solution might put your characters in a better position than they were at the beginning.