



WRITING A STORY OUTLINE

Before writing a story, it helps to know the basic idea of what will happen to the characters within the story. Use this story outline to get you started.

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Who are the main characters in your story? How old are they? What do they look like? What kind of personality do they have?

In any good story, the main character experiences a problem, obstacle or challenge. This problem could be something external like a storm, school bully, or angry bear. Characters can also struggle with internal emotions like anger, jealousy, and fear. What is the conflict your main character experiences? Is it an external or internal conflict, or both?

What happens at the beginning of your story? _____

How does your character respond at the beginning of the story when facing a problem? _____

What happens at the middle of your story? _____

How does your character feel or respond? _____

The climax of a story is the point of greatest interest, action, or emotional tension. This dramatic point usually comes near the end of the story. What happens toward the end of your story (the climax)?

How does your character feel or respond? _____

How does your story end? _____

How did you main character change or grow in the story? _____

Good stories do more than simply tells the details about something that happened. Good stories connect with readers by helping them learn and grow alongside the story's characters. What is the main lesson or theme that you want to share with your readers through your story?
