

Create an illustrated short story

Task

To create and edit an illustrated short story that combines language and visual features for particular purposes and effects.

- Plan an illustrated short story.
- Draft an illustrated short story.
- Edit and redraft an illustrated short story.
- Publish an illustrated short story.

Length: 500–700 words

Plan an illustrated short story

1. Generate and record ideas for a short story.

Title:	
Central idea/theme:	
Characters:	Context of the story:
Complication:	

Resolution:

Narrative point of view and author style:



2. **Brainstorm examples of vocabulary choices and phrases including figurative language** to use when writing your short story. For example:

- What **figurative language** can be used to describe the characters, settings, actions and relationships? Consider how to purposefully use devices such as simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia and symbolism in creating imagery.
- What **precise vocabulary choices** can be used to **create particular purposes and effects**? Consider how to use evocative vocabulary, verbs/verb groups, nouns/noun groups, adjectives and evaluative language in your writing.

Characters	Setting

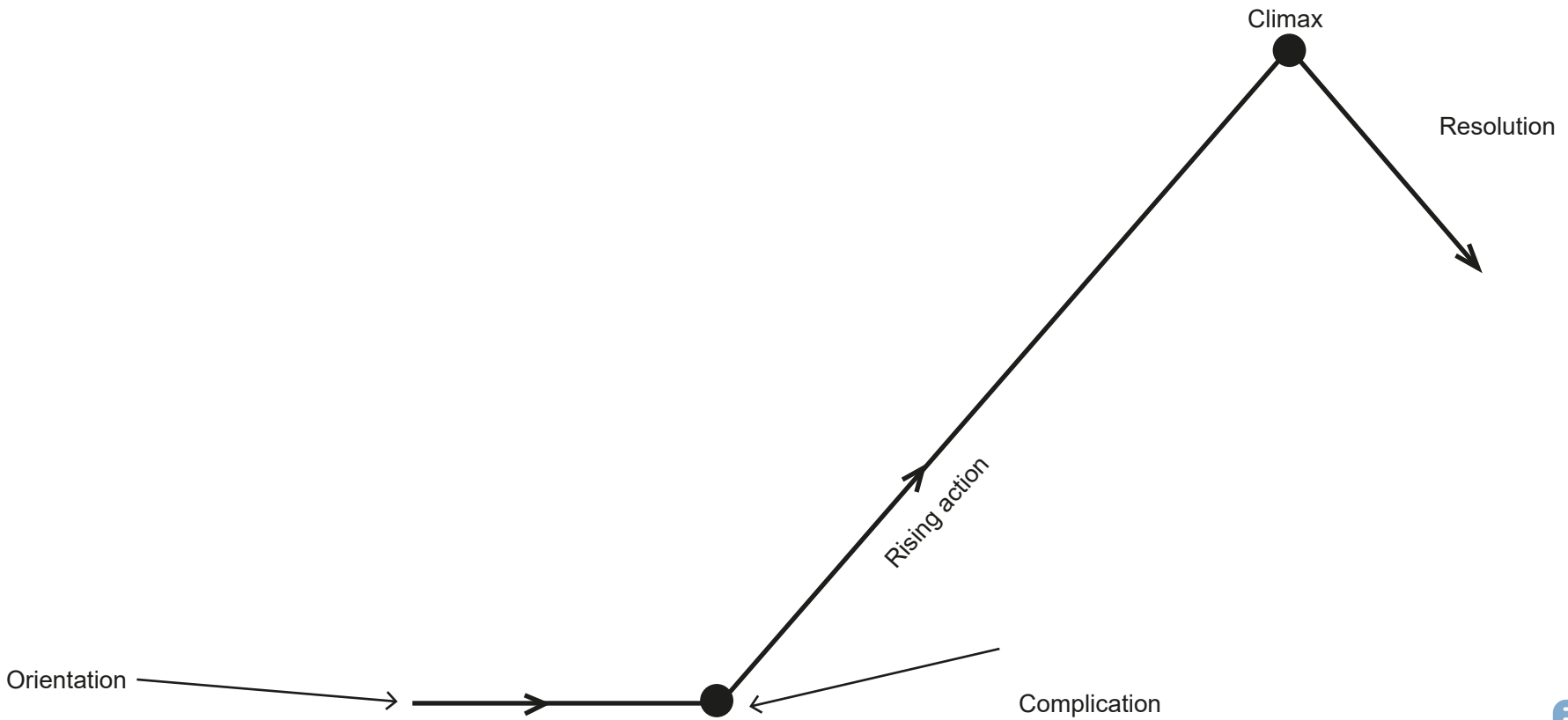
Thoughts and feelings	Actions and events	Relationships and interactions

3. Create a short story plot structure

Create a plot structure for your short story. Record notes about the narrative structure, indicating the organisation and sequencing of events in the short story on the diagram on the next page.

Remember:

- these are just short notes to give an overall impression of what happens in the story and the order in which the events occur
- you can manipulate the narrative structure to create specific effects suitable for purpose and audience. For example, will the plot be continuous or will it make use of writing techniques like flashbacks or flashforwards? Will your story have a clear resolution of the complication, will it end on the climax or include a twist at the end?



Draft an illustrated short story

4. **Draft** your short story using the scaffold below.

Consider illustrations that could be included to support and enhance meaning and engagement for the reader.

	Draft short story	Ideas for illustrations
Title Write an engaging title		
Orientation Write the beginning of the story to introduce the main character and context. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the story begin? • How will the setting be established? • How will the characters be introduced? • Who is telling the story? What is the narrative point of view? • Will the orientation foreshadow aspects of later events? 		
Complication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will happen to start the rising action? • Will it be a problem, a conflict or perhaps an occurrence or event? 		

	Draft short story	Ideas for illustrations
<p>Rising action</p> <p>Develop the story from the complication.</p> <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will happen following/because of the complication? • How will these events lead up to the climax of the story? • How does the rising action affect the relationships of the characters? • How is tension created? • How will precise language choices create setting and develop character and plot? 		

	Draft short story	Ideas for illustrations
<p>Climax</p> <p>The highest moment of tension.</p> <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do the events of the rising action reach a climax? • How is tension enhanced? • What emotional effect will the climax have on the audience? 		
<p>Resolution</p> <p>Bring your short story to an end.</p> <p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At what specific point will your story end? • How does the climax impact on character relationships and the outcome of the story? • Is the conflict resolved or is there a 'cliffhanger' or a 'twist' for the reader to ponder? • What is your intended audience response after reading the short story? 		

Edit and redraft an illustrated short story

5. Edit and redraft your short story using **Sheet 14 — Short story checklist**.

- Read the text aloud to check for cohesion and precise meaning.
- Look at each word and sentence separately to identify errors.

Note

If using the editing tools available in word processing software such as Microsoft Word (for example, thesaurus, dictionary, highlighting tool, spelling correction tool or grammar correction tool), remember you cannot rely completely on the automatic editing tools, because not all errors will be identified. For example:

- The spelling tool may automatically correct spelling according to American English. For example, while the tool will recognise 'organize' as correct, in Australia the correct spelling is 'organise'. You can switch to Australian English by going to 'Review' on the tool bar, selecting 'Language' and then choose 'Set proofing language'. You will be provided with a list of language choices.
- The spelling tool will not necessarily pick up correctly spelled words used in an inappropriate context. For example, the word 'from' will not be recognised as incorrectly spelled if it has been typed as 'form'.

6. Finalise the creation or sourcing of your illustrations for the short story.
7. Evaluate how effectively your visual choices work for particular purposes and effects.
8. Manipulate the positioning and content of your illustrations to enhance the narrative.

Publish an illustrated short story

9. **Publish** an illustrated short story that combines visual and language choices for particular purposes and effects. Use appropriate publishing software to imaginatively publish your illustrated short story.

Tools for creating the illustrated short story

Examples of websites for images:

FlickrCC	http://www.flickr.com/creativecommons/
Wikimedia Commons	http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page
Pics4Learning	http://pics4learning.com/
Pixabay	https://pixabay.com/
Open Clipart	https://openclipart.org/

Examples of publishing software:

- Prezi at <http://prezi.com/>
- Microsoft Photo Story 3
- Microsoft Producer for PowerPoint
- Microsoft PowerPoint
- Microsoft OneNote