




# Short story checklist

Short story elements				Ideas for improvements
<b>Title</b> Engages audience and encourages them to read on.				
<b>Plot structure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complication introduces a problem or problems for the protagonist to encounter.</li> <li>• Climax provides a high point of tension or conflict in the story.</li> <li>• Resolution effectively reduces the tension by solving (or not solving) the protagonist's main problem.</li> </ul> (Flashback and flashforward techniques may be used for effect.)				
<b>Setting</b> Usually single time and place; developed quickly.				
<b>Point of view and author style</b> The narrative perspective is consistent and relevant to the story.				
<b>Theme</b> A clear and identifiable central idea is developed.				
<b>Characters</b> One or two main characters are developed quickly.				



Language features				Ideas for improvements
<b>Figurative language</b> Use of a range of figurative language features, such as simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, symbolism, onomatopoeia.				
<b>Language choices</b> Purposeful and precise choices of language, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nouns/noun groups</li> <li>• verbs/verb groups</li> <li>• adjectives</li> <li>• evaluative language</li> <li>• evocative vocabulary.</li> </ul>				

Text structures				Ideas for improvements
<b>Cohesion</b> Lexical cohesion, text connectives				
<b>Sentence variation</b> Variety of clause and sentence structures				
<b>Direct speech</b> Accurate use of punctuation and layout				
<b>Punctuation</b> Correct use of punctuation to create clear meaning				