

Aims

- Understand and evaluate a short story.
- Work in a group to plan and create a storyboard.
- Use storytelling techniques to present your storyboard in an engaging way.

1. PREPARE TO LISTEN

You're going to listen to a story. Look at some words from the story. What kind of story do you think it might be? What do you think might happen?

an ambulance a blanket a box a dog a man a wheelchair

2. LISTEN TO THE STORY

What happened? Did you make any correct predictions about the story? Do you think it's a happy story or a sad story? Why?

3. SHARE AND DISCUSS

How good was the story? Analyse the strengths of the story using the list of key ingredients.

1. **Strong opening**

Does the story set the scene quickly and effectively?

2. **Main event**

Does it provoke an emotional response? What kind of response?

3. **Disruption**

Is there an element of disruption? What is it?

4. **Unexpected twist**

Does the story surprise you at any point? If so, how?

5. **Strong conclusion**

Does the story have a clear ending? Are you satisfied with it?

6. **Lasting impression**

What impression does the story make on you?

Pronunciation

Look at the extract from the story. Where are the main stresses? Where would you pause? Read the extract out loud as the storyteller did.

He waited for hours and hours, and the hours turned into days. No one came to look for him and no one knew who he belonged to. The nurses in the hospital tried to find the dog's owner but failed. The waiter tried to coax him away with food, but he refused to move.

4. PLAN AND CREATE A STORYBOARD

You work for a film company and want to get funding for a short film. Work in a group. Follow these steps to plan and create a storyboard to use in a pitch for a film producer.

1. Choose a main character and a setting.

Do you want to use a character you already know or create something original?

2. Decide how you're going to start the story.

What elements of the setting do you want to share from the beginning? What's your character doing at the beginning of the story?

3. Decide on or identify an element of disruption.

How does it affect the setting or the character?

4. Decide on or identify the main event and discuss how you want to lead up to it.

What kind of emotion do you want to provoke? How can you do this?

5. Decide whether to include an unexpected twist.

At what point do you want to introduce this twist? How can you create an element of suspense?

5. PREPARE TO PRESENT

Prepare to present your ideas to a producer. In your group, practise presenting your storyboard and delivering your pitch.

6. DELIVER YOUR PITCH

Present your storyboard and deliver your pitch. At the end, be prepared to answer questions about your ideas.

Reflect

What was the most difficult part of the storyboarding activity?

How do you think the pitch went?

Is there anything you could have done to make the pitch more effective?