



Storytelling is all around us. When you talk with friends, you tell stories. When you meet new people, you tell stories. When you go to work, you tell stories. Humans are natural storytellers and being a good storyteller is an important skill in the social, academic and working world.

In this course, we will discover and learn how to tell great stories by exploring structure, the use of suspense, curiosity, sensory language and your tone of voice to tell stories that will have your audience hanging on your every word.

5 x 1 hour sessions

Ages: 8+

Minimum class size 2

Maximum class size 4-6

Purpose

This course is designed to help proficient English speakers use story structure, descriptive language and tone of voice to become confident engaging storytellers.

Goals

Students complete the course with an understanding of how and when to use different story structures, the importance and ability of using descriptive language as well as the ability to change the tone and voice as a tool to engage and spark interest.

Class 1 *Your favourite stories, Use of voice, Descriptive Language*

Class 2 *Character Traits and Development, Create a Character*

Class 3 *Story Structure, Pixar Pitch, The Story Arc, Story Cubes*

Class 4 *Getting and Keeping Listener Attention through Suspense and Curiosity*

Class 5 *Putting it all Together, Telling your Story, Peer Feedback*

Class 1 Your favourite stories, Use of voice, Descriptive Language

Goals:

- Understand students' interests and experiences with story
- Use voice to express emotion and meaning
- Descriptive language to describe character and setting

Student Output:

- Students can change their voice and add expression to their language
- Students describe character and place traits
- Students help to retell the target story using expressive voice and descriptive language

Class 2 Character Traits and Development, Create a Character

Goals:

- Describe character traits and description
- Relate to actions that make a character good/bad
- Students create their own character

Student Output:

- Students can recognize who is the good/bad guy
- Students discuss what makes you like/dislike characters in a story
- Students create their own character and add details to lead listeners to like/dislike them (detailed drawing/puppet for homework)

Class 3 Story Structure, Pixar Pitch, The Story Arc, Story Cubes

Goals:

- Introduce Story Arc and Pixar Pitch as story structures
- Connect structures to known stories
- Review previous stories and new story, review adjectives and voice
- Spontaneous story creation using story dice. Applying voice, descriptive words, character development and story structure

Student Output:

- Students retell a story they know using the story arc structure
- Students create a story outline using target structure
- Students spontaneously tell stories applying what we have learned so far

Class 4 **Getting and Keeping Listener Attention through Suspense and Curiosity**

Goals:

- Getting listener attention. 3 tricks
- The Curiosity Gap. What is it? How can we use it successfully?
- Creating Suspense. Use of questions, silence and imagination

Student Output:

- Students use attention grabbing tricks in practice and natural production
- Students create headlines and language that spikes listener curiosity
- Students create suspenseful situations using set techniques
- Students work on their own story, continued as homework (to tell the story in the final class)

Class 5 **Putting it all Together, Telling your Story, Peer Feedback**

Goals:

- Students tell their own story
- Peer feedback and say what they like about others' stories
- Final on-the-spot story creation with story cubes.

Student Output:

- Students tell their stories and put everything together
- Students give feedback to others. (I really liked...)
- Students create stories on-the-spot and apply everything they have learnt.