

When we write a story,

- we set the scene in the introduction. We mention the time, place, weather and the people involved.
- we develop the story in the main body paragraph. We present the events in the order in which they happened.
- We describe what happened at the end and people's feelings in the conclusion.

When we write a story we normally use:

- past tenses. (She opened the door and went outside.)
- sequence words to help the reader follow the events. (then, later, after (that), next, and then, finally, when, as soon as, etc)
- a variety of adjectives to make our story more interesting. (warm, beautiful, strange, etc)

Rubric analysis

- 1** Read the task. Use the underlined key words to answer the questions.

Your English teacher asked you to write a story. Your story must begin with this sentence: Last Saturday night, my mother stayed up late to watch a film on TV.

Your story must include:

■ an accident ■ hospital.

Write your story (100-120 words).

- 1 What kind of text are you going to write?
- 2 How must it begin?
- 3 What must you include?
- 4 How many words are you going to write?



The Late Night Show

by Mary Taylor

- 1** Last Saturday night, my mother stayed up late to watch a film on TV. It was a cold, snowy evening so my father and I said goodnight to her and went to sleep in our nice warm beds.
- 2** Later, when the film was over, she took something into the kitchen, but she suddenly slipped and hurt her arm. She didn't want to wake us up, so, stupidly, she called the ambulance instead. When the ambulance men arrived, they quickly put her on a stretcher and started to carry her out of the house. Then, my father woke up and heard the sound of talking and thought there were burglars in the house. In his hurry to get downstairs, he fell and hit his head on the floor.
- 3** In the end, they both went to hospital that night, but luckily there was nothing seriously wrong with either of them. Fortunately, we all saw the funny side of it the next day, but Mum is no longer allowed to watch TV late at night!

Model analysis

- 2** a) Read the model. Write the paragraph number.

- A** what happened in the end, feelings
- B** set the scene
- C** the events in chronological order

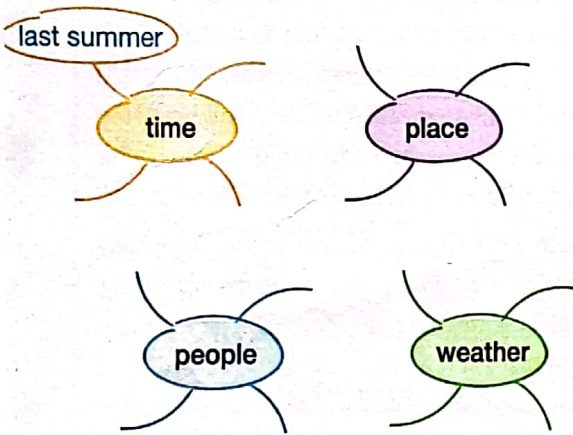
- b) Read the model again. Put the events in the right chronological order.

- A** 1 My mother stayed up late to watch a film on TV.
- B** My father fell and hit his head on the floor.
- C** The ambulance men put my mother on a stretcher and started to carry her out of the house.
- D** My father and I went to sleep.
- E** My father woke up and heard the sound of talking.
- F** My mother took something into the kitchen.
- G** Both my mother and my father went to hospital.
- H** She slipped and hurt her arm.
- I** She called the ambulance.

Set the scene

3 Copy the spidergrams into your notebook. Complete them with the words/phrases below.

- last summer at home on my uncle's farm
- a snowy evening my family and I a month ago
- a wet and cold day Megan last week
- on the beach my father a windy night
- it was hot and sunny two years ago
- in the park my friend Tom



4 Look at the picture and read the paragraph. Answer the questions.



Last weekend, my family and I went to our farmhouse. The weather was great. It was sunny and warm and the countryside around us looked beautiful!

- 1 Where does the story take place?
- 2 When does the story take place?
- 3 Who is the story about?
- 4 What was the weather like?

5 Look at the picture. Use the notes to write sentences setting the scene.

- Last Saturday
- John
- go jogging
- woods
- cold and chilly
- no one around

Writing Tip Sequence words

When we tell a story, we use sequence words. He looked around, then opened the door and went in. As soon as he got into the car, his mobile phone started ringing. They called for help. Soon after, a police car arrived. When Alex walked into the kitchen, he saw a huge spider on the table. Tom was not with the rest of the children. He joined them later. In the end, everyone was happy to be back at home. It was cold so he put on his coat.

- 6 a) Find and circle the sequence words in the model.
b) Choose the correct words.

A Edward had the day off 1) **so/when** he went to the museum. 2) **As soon as/Then** he got there, he saw a police car outside. 3) **Suddenly/So**, a man ran past him down the street. 4) **When/Soon after** he found out that the man was a burglar. Luckily, the police caught him a few hours 5) **then/after**.

B Last Monday was Sally's first day at work 6) **then/so** she wanted to be early. She phoned for a taxi and 7) **then/suddenly** walked out of the house. 8) **Later/When** the taxi arrived, she got in and the driver drove off. 9) **Suddenly/As soon as**, she realised she was in the wrong part of town. The taxi wasn't for her, but for the woman next door. 10) **Later/In the end**, the taxi driver took her to work, just in time!