

Class 1: Spark Your Story

Slide 1: Welcome

Teacher Notes

- Welcome students to the course.
- Introduce yourself.
- Explain that by the end of the course they will have completed their own story.

Sample Script：Welcome everyone to the creative writing class. My name is..... .
Today is your first step towards completing your very own story!

Slide 2: Class Objectives

Teacher Notes

- Present/Ask a student go over the PPT
- Explain the word “ brainstorm " if needed.
- Let the students know the purpose of the class is to get their creativity flowing.

Sample Script: Let’s get a volunteer to read this out loud! (Reads the slide)

Who knows the definition of the word Brainstorm? (Gives answer) Yes! It is a fun way to express the activity you have coming up with ideas in your head!

The goal of this class is to get your creativity flowing!

Slide 3: What Makes a Story?

Teacher Notes

- Go over Characters, Settings, Problem, Solution.
- Give suitable examples based on the age of the children in class. (e.g. 3 little pigs for <9, and Lord of the Rings for >9)
- Explain that these 4 things exist in every book and movie they have read/watched.

Sample Script: So these are the things that make up a story (Characters, Settings, Problem, Solution) Is everyone clear about what these are? For example in the 3 little pigs, the characters are? The 3 little pigs, and the big bad wolf. Setting, I believe the story took place in a farm somewhere? Problem, the wolf keeps chasing them down wanting to eat them. Solution, the pigs kept on running into stronger houses, first the straw house, then the wood, and finally into the brick house.

For example in "The lord of the rings" the characters are? Frodo, Sam, Gandalf, Aragorn, Legolas, hahaah too many to list. These are the main characters, ok. The setting? Fairy tale world right? Problem, the evil ring appeared. Solution, they have to bring the ring back to Mordor to destroy it.

So, these 4 things must exist in every complete story! Something for you to think about!

Slide 4: Class Activity "What is your favorite Story?"

Teacher Notes

- Ask students to name their favorite book, movie, or story.
- Record a few answers.
- Discuss the reasons why students liked it. Is it due to the Character, Setting, Problem, or all the above.

Sample Script: For example, my favorite movie is "The Green Mile", have you seen it? A few Yeses, no? Ok, It is a rather old movie. I'm apparently giving away my age..... Aside from the storyline/problem I like it mainly due to the Character named John Coffey, a big, black, quiet, mysterious prisoner. I think he is what made the movie to great and successful.

Give me your favorite book or movie, go! ..... Why do you like it so much?

Slide 5: What if.....

Teacher Notes

- Explain the importance of "What If" then ask students how they feel about the questions in the slide.
- Unexpected/Surprising Factors = Interesting
- Give one yourself or have Students share book/movie examples if needed.

Sample Script: For any amazing story to come pass, the question "What if?" usually comes up.
What exactly does What if mean? "What if I went to school 5 days a week?" That might not make a lot of sense since most people go to school 5 days a week. How about "What if I went to school every single day?!" That might draw interest to those who are

interested in seeing how this poor guy lived right? Hahaha What if is usually used for something that is uncommon, and imaginative! Because most people (I don't want to say everyone) want to hear or watch things that are new and exciting! For example for the movie Forrest Gump the What if question might be "What if a guy with an IQ much lower than an average person still manages to be successful in practically everything he does?"

Slide 6: Writing Practice (Handout Worksheet)

Teacher Notes

- Have students begin writing "What if" ideas using the Characters, Place, and Problem selected from the worksheet.
- Have them keep creating without worrying too much about sentence structures and grammar.
- Remind the students to have fun with it!
- Consider writing one yourself in case there is an odd number of students in class!

Time

- 5-10 minutes

Sample Script: Select a character, place and problem from the worksheet and begin writing your story! Feel free to introduce the character in detail, write about how he/she feels being where he is, finally see if you are able to include the problem in a natural and descriptive way!

Keep writing, have fun, and don't worry too much about sentences structures and grammar. Simply write as much as you can, and see where it will take you!

Slide 7: Time to Share

Teacher Notes

- Have students read each other's "What if" passage (in pairs to pass the story to one direction)
- Jot down things you liked about it.

Sample Script: Now, hand your story over to the person next to you! Read the story and take some notes on the things you like about it. Are you surprised with his selections?

Slide 8: Presentation

Teacher Notes:

- Have each student go up to the front of the class and reflect on their

partner's What if stories. (In case of a big class, have one student from the pair come up)

Sample Script: Please come up and give a summary of the story you read! Is it, funny, scary, weird, or something else? Be supportive of one another by giving them positive feedbacks.

Slide 9: Homework

Teacher Notes:

- Have the students write down 3 possible story ideas of their own for Homework.
- Remind them about the "What If".

Sample Script: Ok class, for homework, it is time for you to come up with 3 story ideas! Remember to apply the " What if" method we have gone over in class today!

See you all next class!

Slide 10: Thank you