**Changes Narrative:**

**Writing a Story about Change**

5th Grade Writing



Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end.

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Writing Your Own Changes Narrative

You will be writing a narrative about a character that goes through a personal change.

During your writing process, be sure you:

* Identify a theme that you will use throughout your narrative.
* Decide what conflict will take place throughout your story.
* Fill out the plot diagram to help you organize your ideas about the main character, the setting, the plot, and the changes that take place. This diagram will help you organize your paragraphs.
* Use transition words to start new paragraphs and to show time and place.
* Show, don’t tell (use dialogue and vivid details).
* Write a conclusion that provides closure for your story – what change happens? What is the result?

When you are editing, make sure you use the checklist.

Common Themes in Books

You will find that many books include a theme, or lesson, that is revealed as you read the story. Below are common themes you could include in your story.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Acceptance | These books have characters who respect & accept others’ differences and beliefs. |
| Courage | These books have brave characters who have the strength to overcome a fear or accept a risk. |
| Perseverance | These books have characters who never give up even when facing difficult times. |
| Cooperation | These books have characters who work together to solve a problem or achieve a goal. |
| Compassion | These books have characters who want to make those who are suffering feel better. |
| Honesty | These books have characters who find that it is best to always tell the truth. |
| Kindness | These books have friendly characters who are generous and considerate of others. |
| Loyalty | These books have characters who trust each other and never turn their backs on their friends. |

**My Notes about Plot Diagramming**

What is a plot? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Parts of a Plot**

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| --- | --- |
| Exposition |  |
| Inciting Incident |  |
| Rising Action (Obstacles) |  |
| Climax |  |
| Falling Action |  |
| Resolution |  |
| Conclusion |  |

**Plot Diagramming**

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**Parts of Plot**

Exposition: the beginning of a story, where the audience is introduced to the characters

Inciting Incident: what starts the conflict, the spark that starts the story

Rising Action: the buildup of the story, what your characters go through to get what they want or need

Climax: the highest point of dramatic action or tension in a story

Falling Action: the action after the climax between the conflict and resolution

Resolution: when the conflict of the story is ended, resolved, or fixed

Conclusion: what happens at the end of the story

**Guided Practice:**

Directions: Explain the events from each part of the plot in “Thank You, Ma’am” by Langston Hughes. Highlight where you find he event in the story, and write which part of plot it is.

Exposition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Inciting Incident: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Rising Action: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Climax: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Falling Action: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Independent Practice**

Directions: Explain the events from each part of the plot in “Eleven” by Sandra Cisneros. Highlight where you find he event in the story, and write which part of plot it is.

Exposition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Rising Action: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Resolution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Brainstorm 1**

Directions: List at least five ideas.

Think about a place that matters. List small moments that occurred in that place and write about one.

**Brainstorm 2**

Directions: List at least five ideas.

Think of a person who matters to you, list small moments connected to him/her and write about one.

**Brainstorm 3**

Directions: List at least five ideas.

Think of first times, last times, or times you realized something. List stories that you could tell about each and write about one.

**Brainstorm 4**

Directions: List at least five ideas.

Think of times you realized something. (These may be times you realized that you have changed.)

**Thoughts and Ideas**

Directions: You will need at least one full paragraph for each stage in your story. (You may write more paragraphs than this. I know many of you will!) Use this page to begin planning and laying out your paragraphs.

Exposition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**“Show, Don’t Tell”**

What is Show, Don’t Tell”?

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Descriptive writing paints a picture for the reader.

For example:

A) The sky is blue.

OR

B) The sky above was the color of a robin’s egg and was scattered with fluffy white clouds that made Jimmy want to fly away with them.

Which one is more descriptive?

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Ways to “Show”

Use sensory language:

* Sensory words engulf the reader’s five senses.
* The five senses are: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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* Words like dazzling, melodious, rough, or bitter are great examples.

. Use strong action verbs:

* Strong action verbs have a greater impact on your reader.
* Avoid words like dislike, love, run, etc. Instead, use words like avoid, detest, admire, adore, cherish, dart, dash, or scurry.

What is descriptive writing?

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Which is a better example of descriptive writing? (Circle one.)

A. Carter was sick of living a lie. He was sad and angry, so she slammed her bedroom door.

OR

B. “I’m tired of pretending!” Carter shouted, tears streaming down his face, before slamming the door behind him.

**Dialogue**

**What is dialogue? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**What dialogue looks like:**

**Liza and Marcus looked out the window at the city below.**

**“Have you ever been here?” Marcus asked.**

**“No, my family rarely left the capitol,” Liza said sadly. “I wish we’d travelled more.”**

**Dialogue Rules:**

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
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**Tips for good dialogue:**

* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
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**Write Your Own Dialogue**

**Directions:** Write a dialogue for your story. Be sure to use what you have learned about the rules of dialogue!

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**Changes Narrative Checklist**

I’ve thought about and planned for:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Exposition

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Inciting Incident

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rising Action

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Climax

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Falling Action

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Resolution

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Conclusion

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Theme – What is the big idea or lesson of your story?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Spelling and Punctuation