

## How to write an interesting story?

Being a good writer isn't just about talent. You can learn a lot of skills from books and lectures on the theory of writing. Here are some of the most important rules if you want to tell a good story.

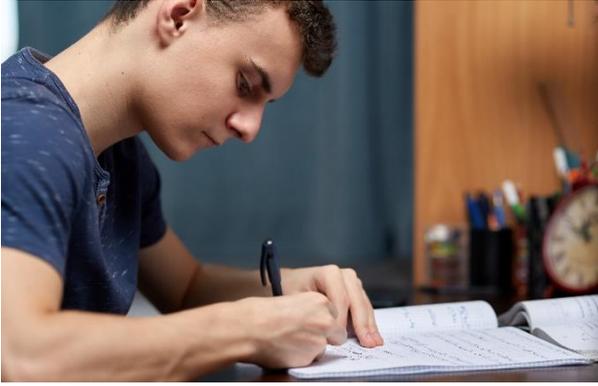


### 1) KNOW YOUR TOPIC

Write about things you know well, or which you like so much that you will do the necessary research. This will make your writing believable. Writing about a country or a situation you don't know well can sound false or even smug.

### 2) CHECK YOUR STRUCTURE

It is very important to figure out what is the beginning, middle and end of your story. They should be logically connected. A story with many episodes that just go on and on is usually boring and people quickly stop reading. There are lots of good structures you can check out online, such as the Hero's Journey, Fichtean Curve or 7-point Plot Structure. (Just Google them!)



### 3) USE ALL THE SENSES

When you write, make sure you mention different senses. What can you see, hear, smell, taste and touch? Using such descriptions will make your story come alive and it will be more interesting.

### 4) IMAGINE YOUR READER

Some of the best writing happens when you know who you are writing for. Is it for your friends, family, or an online community? When you know at least one person who will read your text, you will write it more carefully. After all, you want them to enjoy your work.

### 5) READ OR LISTEN TO OTHERS

The best writers are the best readers. Even if you just want to tell a joke (a very short story indeed!) it is a great idea to first listen how others do it.

#### Tasks:

- 1 Make a visual representation of the advice from the text: a poster, a presentation, a brain map, or a collage.
- 2 Find a short story you like. It can be a folk tale, comic, or film. Look through the five rules and figure out: why you like it, what kind of structure it has got, how it uses senses, and who it is for.
- 3 Retell the story in your own words, following the suggestions from the text.
- 4 Write your own story in the same way.