Lesson*Stream* HANDOUT



Prepare your story

You are going to use the frog and dragonfly video as a starting point to write a story. To prepare for this, think about the following questions:



Scan or click the code to see the video

1. Type of story

What kind of story will you write: a poem, a horror story, a bedtime story for children, an excerpt from a literary novel, a fable with a moral, a newspaper article, a diary entry or an internal monologue from one of the characters? Will your story be funny, sad, surreal ...?

2. Protagonist and antagonist

There are two characters in the video – a frog and a dragonfly. In your story, which is the protagonist (the main character) and which is the antagonist (the one that creates some sort of conflict – see below)?

3. Conflict

All stories have a conflict: a main problem that creates a central question: Will the hungry frog get its lunch? Will the dragonfly live to see another day? What conflict will you focus on?

4. Setting

How will you describe the place where your story takes place? Will you describe the colours, the sounds, the smells \dots ?

5. The characters

What sort of character or personality does the frog have? What is its backstory? What does it want in the story? What about the dragonfly?

6. Other back stories

Think about the following:

- Is this the first time the frog and dragonfly met?
- Are there any other characters involved in the story?
- Did anything happen before or after the incident in the video?

7. Investigation

Is there any information about the video that would help you with the story. For example, information about frogs and dragonflies in nature? Or information about the video: who created it, the number of views it has, etc.?

8. Your own experience

Can you think of any personal experiences that relate to this video? For example, a lucky escape or an unexpected failure? Do you remember how you felt?

9. Other story connections

Does the video remind you of any books, adverts, TV programs, cartoons, nature clips or other stories?

10. Beginning your story

How are you going to start your story? If you like, you can use the words, "Once upon a time".

11. Ending your story

Think carefully about the end of your story. It should tell the reader that the story is finished. Perhaps you could give your story a twist (= a surprise ending).

12. Title

Will you give your story a title?



Writing tips

- The goal is not to write an accurate, detailed description of the video but to create some sort of story based on the narrative.
- To give your story shape, you can change details in the video.
- Most writing is rewriting. You can write a first version (a draft) and then leave it for a while. Then go back to it with fresh eyes and look for ways to improve it. You are your own editor.