

Second-time Cinderella

Structure

Language feature

Title

Second-time
Cinderella

Orientation

Telling when?
where? who?

Complication

triggers a series
of events

Resolution

Once upon a time, in a far distant country, there lived a girl called Cinderella.

She was longing to go to the palace ball, but her two ugly sisters had left her at home and she had nothing to wear.

"I wish something magical would happen," she cried.

WHOOSH! Within minutes a golden coach appeared, and she was on her way to the ball. Her ball gown, covered in diamonds, made her look even more beautiful.

"I wish the Prince would dance with me," she sighed as she entered the palace ballroom. And dance with her he did. He could not keep his eyes off her!

Just before midnight there was a commotion at the top of the staircase. "Where's the stupid hill?" a coarse voice shouted. There arose a loud, tinny clatter, along with shouts, screams, the splashing of water and the sounds of battered bodies thundering on the stairs. The noise and rude words shocked the palace dancers into stunned silence.

"Listen Jack!" an impatient voice groaned, "Get back into the nursery rhyme book and stop mucking up other people's stories! You too, Jill! In fact, I'm sick of you all!"

With that, the author shut the book, and everyone lived happily ever after.

Specific character

Describing words
e.g. 'ugly sisters',
'loud, tinny clatter'

Use of time
words to connect
events

Action words
e.g. 'shouted',
'thundering'

Narratives

There are many kinds of narratives: fairy stories, mysteries, fables, romances, adventure stories and myths. In most narratives the focus of the text is on a sequence of actions. Dialogue is often included. No matter what form the narrative takes, it should entertain.

Writer's Challenge

Narratives contain many examples of words indicating vigorous action and colourful description.

1 Look again at the paragraph beginning 'Just before midnight', and list the verbs in the spaces below.

2 Look at the same page again, and list the adjectives.

Write a narrative

A far-fetched fairy tale

The characters around the border of this page are all from fairy tales. Choose one and write your own humorous fairy tale narrative.

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More to do

In your writing book:

Retell 'Red Riding Hood', with the wolf as a generous, sensitive fellow.
or
Retell 'The Three Bears', with Goldilocks as a safe-cracker.