

Narrative Writing Step By Step

Monster Tale Success Checklist

Set the Stage: Now that you've examined the Peuchen model narrative (see [help doc](#) for the planning notecacher), it's time for you to do as Guadalupe Garcia McCall did: make a new story from old parts (Remember How the Odyssey is alike but also different from SOM?)

Your task is: Write a new 5 paragraph scene from *Summer of the Mariposas* where at least one character from that novel encounters a traditional monster you modernize! In unit 3 you will post your story and the original inspiration to the web along with some creative touches like a podcast recording, drawings, video, etc.

How ? Its up to you based on writing style, skill, and attitude you can **Handwrite** the first draft paper (makes editing harder and since it will be posted to the internet eventually it is easier to read when typed.) or open a New Google Doc and **Type** or **Dictate** (voice typing-If you hate writing ,but love telling stories, trick your brain and use -tools- voice typing then make up the story as you talk- like if you were a ghost story to a partner)

Part 1 Plan Your Draft – Steps:

1. Open a new Google Doc or paper
2. Copy/Paste any ideas you wish to keep from the note catcher tables you did earlier (If you don't love it, it's not too late to change. Go back to the [Help Doc](#) and [Google coin flip](#) if necessary)
3. Choose an Audience. Think of who you would like to read this and write for them. Is this to entertain classmates who are bored? Will your story be read to a little brother or sister? Is it for a friend who is sad?
4. Choose A Mood. Think of the kinds of stories you or your audience enjoys then decide based on your own skills to make this monster tale funny, super scary, gory, action-packed, smart, mysterious, humorous, touching, sad, etc
5. Choose a Theme: Think of a message you'd like the whole world to hear. (US folktales usually end with the main character getting rich or social status - marrying the prince, etc- whereas Native American Indian folktales usually end with the main character learning how to get along better with others. They would never see someone becoming "better" than another person as a good thing. Either way is fine, but make sure that your outcome reinforces your message or lesson.
6. Choose a SOM Character to Meet Your Monster: can be a main or minor character but you must keep their personalities:
 - a. List 3 words to describe them as they are in SOM

- b. How can you show those personality characteristics in your story?(Remember STEAAM) show their personality characteristics by what you write: what would they say? What do they think? What actions do they take?
- 7. Modernize your Monster
 - a. List two things that will stay the same as in the original tale.
 - b. Change at least one thing to modernize your monster from the original tale: Will you modernize their physical appearance? method of attack? Give the a nicer personality?(like GGM did with LaLlorona)
- 8. Decide the Setting for your monster to meet the SOM character
 - a. Will your monster go to Mexico or will your SOM character go to the monster?
 - b. When in the timeline of SOM would it work best to have them meet? Before the book begins? During or between a certain chapter? Years later?
 - c. How do they meet?

Part 2 Write, Type, or Dictate Your story.

Go to your Google Doc or paper. Type or dictate (tools -voice typing) your story to just get it out. THEN go back later to add transition words, fancy vocab, more description etc.

. If you need help, here are steps to follow:

1. Start with an Introduction (engage and orient the reader):
 - a. Introduce your main character, - what are they doing when the story starts?
 - b. Tell or Show the Reader the Setting : Where are they? What is the location and what point in the novel SOM is this scene taking place? (setting)
2. Rising Action-
 - a. Tell or show the problem the main character is facing
 - b. Show how the problem is causing conflict.
3. Now the big climax - Show how the conflict comes to a head and blows up (metaphorically or literally) and how the monster and SOM character are involved.
4. Falling action - What changes as the dust settles after the climactic "explosion"
5. Resolution- How's it end? Do they live happily ever after? What lessons did they learn/ what is left unresolved? Does the conclusion follow from and reflect on the events or experiences in the narrative?

Aim for 5 paragraphs. It can be longer.

Part 3 Edit Your Rough Draft. Read your story aloud and...

- a. Edit for grammar, punctuation, spelling. Use a grammar checker if desired (Chrome Web Story- Extensions- Grammarly or other) so each sentence makes sense
 - b. Add:
 - i. make it more coherent. add [Transition Words](#)
 - c. Add Narrative Devices- make your story more professional and interesting to read.
 - d. add figurative language : sensory language, imagery, puns, personification, similes, metaphors...
 - e. add precisely chosen words to be more descriptive (challenge: work in some of these [SOM vocab](#) words!- but don't force it)
 - f. insert foreshadowing - leave little hints of what is going to happen later.
 - g. Edit pacing (like Peuchen underlines)
 - i. slow down time to build suspense
 - ii. "fast forward" through the dull parts
 - h. add transitional words and phrases
2. Switch stories with a partner. Repeat steps 1-3. then complete the checklist below.

Part 3 -place it on the web and enhance it- more about that in Unit 3

Adapted Narrative Writing Checklist (EL)

(check MasteryConnect for Grading Rubric)

Characteristics of an Effective Narrative	Characteristics of this Narrative	Evidence
I use information from sources to craft the characters, setting, or events in the narrative.	<p>chosen monster name:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● original source link:● 2 traits kept<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ____○ ____● 1 trait changed : <p>Character from <i>SOM</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● words to describe their personality”<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ____○ ____● How is their personality show in your story? (list specific action , dialogue, thoughts/reflections) <p>I show that the character is ____ by ____</p> <p>Tell why Is it believable that this scene could be part of the novel: because...</p>	

I engage and orient the reader	How did you establish context?	
I introduce a narrator and/or characters	The tale is told from the point of view of	
I provide a conclusion	How does your conclusion follow from and reflects on the events or experiences in the narrative?	
organize events/sequencing	How does your story unfold naturally and logically?	
I use a variety of transitional words and phrases - sequence	Which words do you use to sequence events and to show changes in time or in setting?	
I use transitional words and phrases to -relationships	Which words do you use to show the relationships among experiences and events?	

I develop experiences, events and characters	Which narrative techniques did you use such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection?	
I use descriptive details	One example of sensory language or precisely chosen words and how it capture the action and convey experiences and events:	
My words and sentences follow the rules of writing. (grammarly ?)	Use Grammarly or other grammar checker	
The spelling, capitalization, and punctuation are correct.	Use Grammarl or other grammar checker.	