

Finish the story

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 3 • Elementary

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To write stories in English using story markers; to draw a picture to illustrate a story

Time: 20–30 minutes

Student grouping: Individuals

Materials: One copy of the worksheet per student; coloured pencils or pens

Language focus: Past tense verbs; *I, she, he; once upon a time, then, so, but, happily ever after*

Preparation

Write the beginning, middle and end of one of the stories below on the board before the lesson starts.

- Beginning – Once upon a time, there was poor boy called Jack.
- Middle – The beans grew into a beanstalk. Jack climbed it and found a rich giant.
- End – Jack took a goose that laid golden eggs and Jack and his mother were never poor again.

OR

- Beginning – Once upon a time, there was a boy and a girl, Hansel and Gretel.
- Middle – Gretel pushed the witch into the oven and they got out of the house.
- End – They ran home and lived happily ever after.

Procedure

Step 1

Ask the children to read and identify the story on the board (*Jack and the Beanstalk* or *Hansel and Gretel*). Point out how your story is divided into three parts: the beginning, middle and end.

Step 2

Elicit as many beginnings of stories from the children as you can. Introduce *once upon a time*. Tell the children that stories often continue with *then, but, so* and end with *happily ever after*.

Step 3

Tell the story on the board to the children, emphasizing the story markers.

Step 4

Hand out the worksheets and show the children where to write the beginning, middle and end of their story. In a few simple sentences, children can now write a story they know or create their own.

Step 5

Using the boxes, the children can draw a picture for each of the three parts of their story. As they write, go round and help where necessary.

Step 6

When they have finished, ask some of them to read out their stories.

Follow-up activity

Put all the stories in a class story book and keep it in the classroom.

