

Is the story interesting?

General Content

- The topic is relatable to every audience
- An everyday problem is presented in an interesting way
- The author uses purposeful humour
- Includes one main character that the reader is invested in their success/failure
- If there are supporting characters, they are critical to the storyline
- Includes a balance between narrative and dialogue
- The narrative allows the reader to paint a picture in their mind

Freytag's Pyramid

- The hook and introduction draws the reader into the story and provides critical background information
- The rising action is leading the reader to the main event and holds the reader's attention
- Every detail in the rising action is crucial to the the development of the main event
- There is one, clear main event/problem or climax
- The falling action resolves & brings closure to the main event/problem or climax
- The conclusion wraps up the falling action with a memory, wish, action or decision for the future that is related to the main event, problem or climax.

Word Choice

- Includes rich vocabulary that is applicable to the story
- Juicy words create a visual for the reader in their mind
- Transition words effectively join ideas together & add variety to sentence beginnings

Is the story clear?

Paragraph Use

- Story should include approximately 10-20 paragraphs
- New paragraphs are shown by skipping a line or including an indent at the beginning of the sentence
- Paragraphs show a change in topic, action, time, character, dialogue or character speaking, setting

Sentence Structure

- When read aloud, the ideas flow together smoothly
- Ideas are clearly communicated in complete sentences (i.e. Conjunctions, verb tenses, subject-verb agreement)

Conventions

- Appropriate use of punctuation
- Words are spelled correctly
- Spelling of unknown or uncertain words are underlined & checked with a peer, dictionary &/or device
- Dialogue is highlighted with the use of quotation marks