

# Short Story Assignment

## HUMANITIES 8

**TASK:** Using what you have learned about stories over the past few weeks, you will write a short story of your own.

### **GUIDELINES:**

- ❑ Your story must be a minimum of 1 page and a maximum of 4 pages. The assignment must be typed using size 12 font and double spaced (Next Week)
- ❑ Your story must have ONE main character
- ❑ Your main character must be Round and Dynamic (experience some kind of growth or change)
- ❑ Your story must have a minimum of ONE and a maximum of 3 supporting characters.
- ❑ Your story must have a PROTAGONIST and an ANTAGONIST
- ❑ Your story must have a clear theme. Some kind of moral lesson.
- ❑ Your story must clearly fit on a plot diagram, and follow the order of events of a linear narrative (plot).
- ❑ Your story must clearly include at least one type of conflict.
- ❑ Attach the rubric to your final copy and don't forget to choose a creative and appropriate title.

**Alternate option:** You may choose to create a graphic story as an alternative option. This option will be a combination of written and visual work. Students who choose this option will be required to create 5 drawings to illustrate each part of plot, and write out a shorter version of their story to explain what is happening

STEP 1: COMPLETE YOUR CHARACTER BRAINSTORMING PAGE/BACKSTORY

STEP 2: COMPLETE YOUR SHORT STORY PROPOSAL SHEET (ATTACHED TO THIS HANDOUT)

STEP 3: COMPLETE YOUR SHORT STORY PLOT DIAGRAM

STEP 4: WRITE YOUR ROUGH DRAFT

STEP 5: YOU WILL TYPE OUT YOUR GOOD COPY

**DUE BEFORE SPRING BREAK**  
**Humanities 8 ~ Short Story Proposal**

**Student Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher Approval:** \_\_\_\_\_

After having completed your "Creative Writing Short Story Brainstorm" sheet, summarize your story using the following format.

**The story is about a** \_\_\_\_\_  
[brief description of main character - introduction]

**who** \_\_\_\_\_  
[action or predicament which initiates plot - the main conflict]

**because** \_\_\_\_\_  
[motivation – what is the main character's goals?]

**but** \_\_\_\_\_  
[conflict; difficulty or obstacle main character faces - rising action]

**so** \_\_\_\_\_  
[decision made in an attempt to resolve the conflict- crisis]

**which leads to** \_\_\_\_\_  
[highest point of interest in the plot - climax]

**and finally finishes with** \_\_\_\_\_  
[plot/conflict resolution, ending]

**which shows** \_\_\_\_\_  
[theme]

# Plot Diagram

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Story: \_\_\_\_\_

Rising Action Events

Falling Action Events

Climax

Climax

Falling Action

Resolution

Rising Action

Conflict

Conflict

Exposition

Setting: (place & time)

Characters:

## Short Story Creative Writing Assignment EVALUATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**STORY Title:**

	CATEGORY/DESCRIPTION	EM	DE	PR	EX
<b>PLOT:</b>	<p><b>Exposition</b></p> <p>The setting, main characters, and mood are introduced in a clear and interesting format that makes the reader want to keep reading.</p>				
	<p><b>Rising Action</b></p> <p>The conflict is elaborated upon in an interesting and logical fashion.</p> <p>The action continues to build through the use of detailed/descriptive writing.</p>				
	<p><b>Climax</b></p> <p>There is a clear climax which is both a major turning point in the story as well as the story's highest point of interest.</p>				
	<p><b>Falling Actions &amp; Dénouement</b></p> <p>There is a clear and well-thought out ending to the story that "fits" one of the three types of endings (denouement, ironic twist or climactic)</p>				
	<p><b>Overall Creativity and Effort</b></p> <p>Title is appropriate and original. Characters are unique and well named. Instructions are followed and creativity and effort is demonstrated in the story.</p>				

<b>CHARACTER S:</b>	The story has at least two characters Each character is very well developed. They are detailed, realistic and believable Each character serves a clear purpose in the story.				
<b>CONFLICT:</b>	The conflict in the story is focussed on an important struggle faced by the protagonist  The conflict serves a clear purpose in the story				
<b>WRITING PROCESS:</b>	The author has provided clear evidence of sufficient brainstorming and editing through the use of provided graphic organizers and several rough drafts.				
<b>MECHANIC S</b>	The good copy of the story is free from spelling, grammatical, and sentence errors.				