



What is Narrative Writing?

- Writing that tells a story, consisting of a beginning, middle and ending
- It usually features fictional (imagined) characters, locations and events
 - It must be exciting, enjoyable and engaging for a reader

There are three types of things that frighten us – Stephen King

Gross-Out

A severed head tumbling down a flight of stairs, maggots crawling around inside your food.
It's disgusting and makes you feel sick.
The lights go out and something green and slimy splatters against your arm.

Horror

Spiders the size of bears, the dead waking up and walking around.
It's unnatural and makes you feel threatened.
The lights go out and something with claws grabs you by the arm.

Terror

You come home and notice everything has been taken away and replaced by an exact copy.
It's unsettling and makes you feel tense.
The lights go out and you hear and feel something behind you – but there's nothing there...



Descriptive Writing Techniques

Adjective	Describes a noun
Simile	Comparing two things using like or as
Adverb	Describes a verb (often “-ly” words)
Metaphor	Comparing two things directly
Onomatopoeia	Words that make their sound
Senses	Sight, sound, smell, taste or touch
Alliteration	Words beginning with similar sounds
Personification	Giving an object human features

Vocabulary

Bloodcurdling	So scary your blood runs cold
Eerie	Creepy, uneasy
Ghoulish	Monstrous, demonic or evil
Macabre	Horrible, related to death
Morbid	Horrible, related to disease
Heinous	Very bad, shocking
Ominous	Sinister, unsettling
Sepulchral	Suggests death, the grave

Arthur Conan Doyle

“If there is no imagination,
there is no horror.”

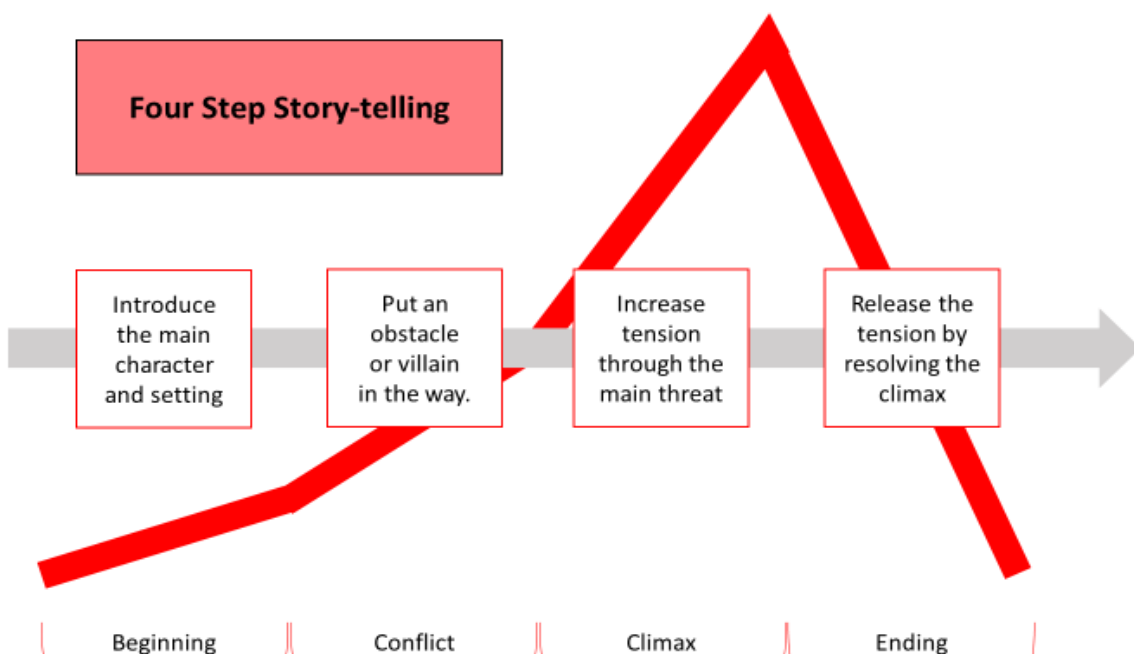
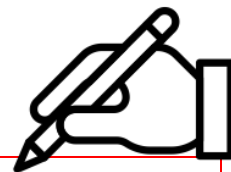


“There is no terror in the bang;
only in the anticipation of it.”



Alfred Hitchcock





Non-Linear Structures

	In Media Res	Starting the story in the middle of the action
	Cliffhanger	Leaving questions unanswered at the end of the story
	Flashback	Going back to include moments from "the past"
	Flashforward	Going forward to include moments from "the future"
	Circular Narrative	Making a connection between the start and end of the story
	Frame Narrative	Having multiple levels or layers to your story
	Parallel Narrative	Jumping between two times, characters, or locations
	Reverse Narrative	Telling the story by starting at the end and going backwards



Features of Horror:

- An abandoned, dangerous or haunted location: it may be somewhere familiar that has been made frightening and unusual.
- A character on his or her own, usually unarmed, exploring at night.
- A terrifying, vicious, monstrous creature that hunts or attacks the main character.
- Lots of vivid descriptions of tense situations: shadows moving, unnerving sounds, glimpses of something in the distance.

