

Short Story Assignment

English 7

TASK: Using what you have learned about short stories, you will write a short story of your own.

Due date for final draft: _____

Option 1: Create an inquiry question about one of the characters in a Pixar film.

Example: What happened to the boy's leg in the short film "The Present"?

Option 2: Create an inquiry question to use for your short story. ***Must be approved by your teacher***

GUIDELINES:

Before you submit your final copy of your short story, check each box if it is complete.

- Your story must be a minimum of 2 pages and a maximum of 5 pages. The assignment must be typed using size 12 font and double spaced.
- Your story must have **ONE main character** and **one antagonist** character
- Your main character must undergo a character change
- Your story must have a minimum of **ONE** and a maximum of **2 supporting characters**
- Your story must clearly fit on a plot graph (contain all 6 sections of a plot)
- Your story must include **ONE** effective dialogue
- Your story must clearly include **ONE** type of conflict and your antagonist is clearly identifiable
- Your story must make clear use of at least **ONE** literary device (imagery, simile, metaphor, diction, onomatopoeia, hyperbole)
- Attach the rubric to your final copy and don't forget to choose a creative and appropriate title.

Narrative Graphic Organizer

1) Which short film are you using as inspiration and what is your inquiry question?

2) Point of View (Written from whose perspective?)

3) Setting

A. When?

B. Where?

4) Characters (4 characters max! At least one main and one minor characters)

A. Protagonist □ Character #1 (Main Character and Protagonist):

1. Name _____
2. Physical characteristics

3. Personality characteristics (at least 2) and what actions will reveal these character traits?

4. What is this character's motivation?

5. How does this character change as a result of the events in the story?

B. Character #2: (Antagonist)

1. Name _____
2. Physical characteristics

3. Personality characteristics (at least 2) and what actions will reveal these character traits?

4. What is this character's motivation?

5. How will the antagonist be defeated?

C. Character #3 (Minor Character): Optional

1. Name _____
2. Who is the character and how are they connected to the plot?

D. Character #4 (Minor Character): Optional

1. Name _____
2. Who is the character and how are they connected to the plot?

5) Conflict Type: Ex. Person Vs. Person _____

Descriptions:

Resolution of Conflicts:

6) Plot (Brief Descriptions)

A. Exposition

B. Initial Incident

C. Rising action event #1 (Setback)

D. Rising action event #2 (Setback)

E. Rising action event #3 (Setback)

F. Climax

G. Falling Action

H. Resolution

7) Literary Devices : Use at least three:

1) Similes/Metaphors, imagery, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, diction

Plan of how these will be used in your story:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Extending:

Theme (state theme and how you will highlight the assigned theme in your narrative)

After having completed your "Narrative Graphic Organizer" sheet, summarize your story using the following format.

The story is about a _____
[brief description of main character - introduction/exposition]

who _____
[action or conflict which initiates plot - the initial incident]

because _____
[motivation]

but _____
[complications/setbacks; difficulty or obstacle main character faces - rising actions]

so _____
[decision made in an attempt to resolve the conflict- crisis]

which leads to _____
[highest point of action in the plot - climax]

and finally finishes with _____
[plot/conflict resolution, ending]

which shows _____
[theme/message]

Teacher Approval: _____

English 7 ~ Short Story Creative Writing Assignment

Name: _____

Name is on the work, rough draft with peer editing and rubric is attached to the work _____

Project is handed in on time _____

	CATEGORY/DESCRIPTION	✓
PLOT:	Introduction The setting, and main characters are introduced in a clear and interesting format that makes the reader want to keep reading.	
	Inciting Incident The story contains a clear initial incident in which the conflict in the story begins and the plot “takes off”.	
	Rising Action The conflict is elaborated upon in an interesting and logical fashion. The action continues to build through the use of detailed/descriptive writing.	
	Climax There is a clear climax which is both a major turning point in the story as well as the story’s highest point of action.	
	Falling Action The events that occur after the climax has been reached and the conflict has been resolved.	
	Resolution There is a clear and well-thought out ending to the story that ties up any loose plot lines.	
CHARACTERS:	The story has at least one main character and at least one minor character- Each character is very well developed. They are detailed, realistic and believable. Each character serves a clear purpose in the story.	
CONFLICT:	The conflict in the story is focussed on an important struggle faced by the protagonist. The conflict serves a clear purpose in the story.	
DIALOGUE/ DESCRIPTION:	The author effectively used dialogue and or description to both further the plot as well as reveal more information about the characters.	
LITERARY DEVICES:	The author made clear use of at least one of the following techniques: imagery, simile, metaphor, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, oxymoron The author has used this technique to enhance the story.	
POETIC DEVICES:	The author made clear use of at least one of the following techniques:	
Extending: THEME	The theme of the story is clearly identifiable and shares insights about the world Theme gives the writing purpose	
ORGANIZATION:	The composition uses form or structure that is appropriate to the purpose and enhances the effectiveness of the story Events are effectively sequenced and develop the conflict(s) and steadily build toward the dynamic climax and thoughtful resolution.	
MECHANICS	The good copy of the story is free from spelling, grammatical, and sentence errors (run-ons, fragments, comma splices, etc.)	

Comments: