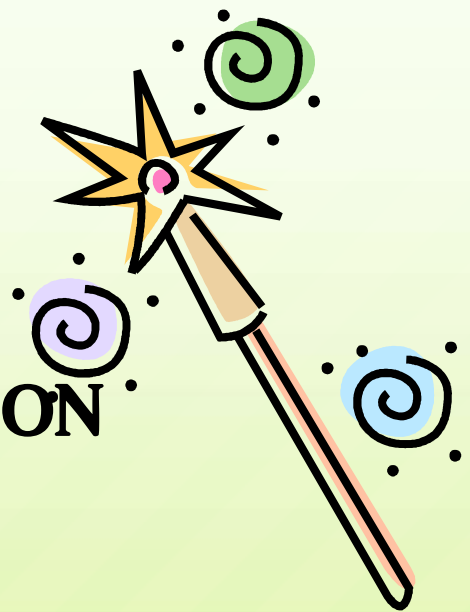


What Kind of Story?

- DRAMA
- SUSPENSE
- ROMANCE
- POETRY
- HORROR
- SCI-FI
- MYSTERY
- ADVENTURE
- HISTORICAL
- CHILDREN'S FICTION
- HUMOR
- WESTERN
- GOTHIC

Pick a
Genre



It All Starts With Character

Pastry Chef

Then add
EMOTION



cranky

frightened

Why is she feeling a
particular emotion?

determined

Then Add a LOCATION

A spooky,
deserted, lonely
(haunted) old
house.

Describe the
location. Make the
reader see it, smell
it, touch it, hear it.
Put us there.

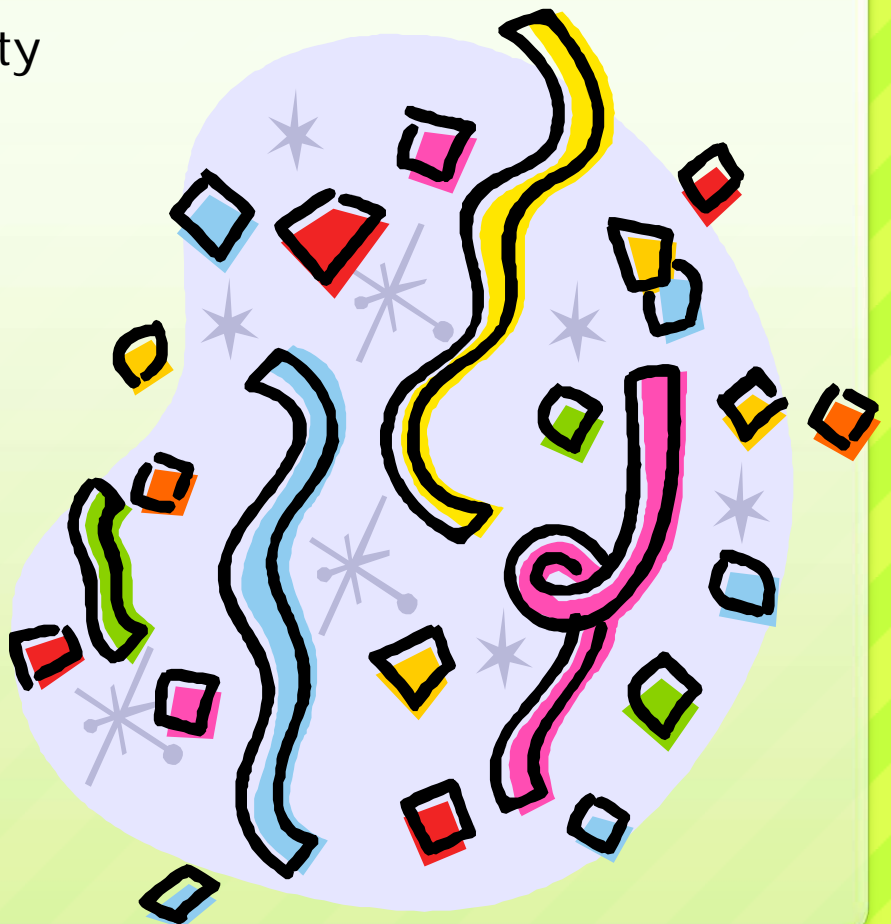


Set the MOOD

It's a dark,
stormy, night.
There is a party
at the old house

What is the party for? Reading of will? Halloween party? Family reunion?

What is the caterer doing there? What happened before she got there?



Add DETAILS

Add some props.
Marshmallow
cream, scooter,
candlestick, bunny
slippers.

Use the props in the
story.



Add COMPLICATIONS

Uninvited guests show up at the party.

The caterer has problems with the food. Something unexpected happens at the party.

Complications add dimension and interest to your scene. Complications will also add conflict and give your characters something to do.



Beginning, Middle & End

Tell the story from the beginning. Fill in the middle. Sum it all up with an ending.

Write a scene that uses all the elements and has a distinct beginning, middle and end to it. Answer all the questions and sets the scene! Tell us what happens next!



**ON TO
THE NEXT
STORY!**



It All Starts With Character

Detective

Then add
EMOTION



New on the job

frustrated

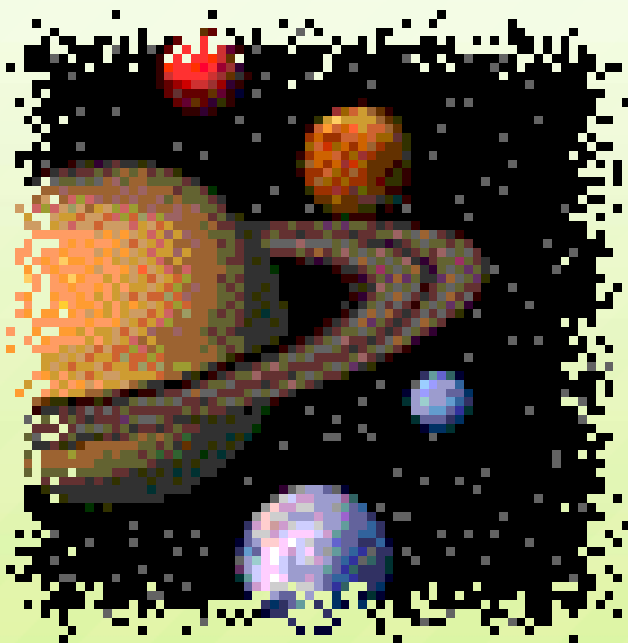
What kind of detective
is he/she? Why is
he/she feeling a
particular emotion?

uncertain

Set the MOOD

Is it a dark planet?
A hot planet? A
completely
unexpected one?

Why is the astronaut there?
Is he/she trying to escape
from something?



How long has he/she
been an astronaut?
Does he like it? Is
he/she good at it?

Editing

- Proofing: Spelling, grammar and punctuation, and capitalization.
- Format: Does my story have a clear beginning, middle and end?
- Story: Does my story say what I want it to say?
- Characterization: What kind of person is my main character? Does the reader want to keep reading to find out what will happen to my character?
- Showing: Did I show my characters emotions, conflicts and goals or did I spend too much time TALKING about them?
- Setting: Did I describe my setting in a way that enabled the reader to experience it? Does it utilize all 5 senses?
- Emotion: Did I allow my reader to feel what my characters are feeling?
- Plot: Did my story hold together? Did I connect all the dots? Does it make sense?
- Conclusion: Did I wrap things up satisfactorily? Did I tie up all the loose ends?
- Read it out loud! Reading aloud will allow the writer to catch mistakes, determine flow and test readability.