

Narrative Writing

Where Is It?

Objectives & Common Core Connections

- * Focus on the purpose of narrative writing.
- * Establish a situation and characters.
- * Write a good opening sentence.
- * Address the audience appropriately.
- * Organize the events in order.
- * Use dialogue.
- * Write a narrative.

Introduction Provide each student with a copy of the writing frame (page 51). Discuss the title and illustrations. Tell students that they will use the illustrations to develop a narrative for fourth graders. Review that a narrative is a story or account of something and is usually written to entertain the reader.

Model Summarize the situation in the illustrations and discuss the characters. You might say: *A girl is eating breakfast, and her mother reminds her to take her homework to school. The girl looks everywhere but can't find it. The bus comes, and she leaves. At school, she unpacks her backpack, and there is her homework.* Model a sentence to begin the narrative. Explain that you want it to appeal to fourth graders. For example:

- Su Lin was sometimes disorganized in the morning.

Mention that you have given the girl in the illustrations a name. Coach students in describing what the pictures show. For example:

- girl eating breakfast
- looks everywhere

- gets on bus
- unpacks backpack and finds homework

Draw attention to the speech balloons and point out that a writer uses dialogue to show how a character feels or responds to an event.

For example:

- “Don’t forget your homework, Su Lin.”
- “It was right here. What happened to it?”

Review the sequence of events in the illustrations. Work with students to develop complete sentences about the events. For example:

- The bus came, and Su Lin got on without finding her homework.
- At school she emptied her backpack, and there it was.
- “My homework was here all along. Phew!”

Guided Practice Have students complete the writing frame. Encourage them to use their own dialogue. Be sure to review how to use capitalization and punctuation in dialogue.

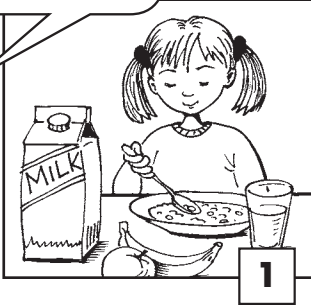
Review Invite volunteers to share their finished pages with the class. Have listeners use items 1–7 and 11 on the assessment checklist (page 64) to evaluate the effectiveness of other students’ work.

Independent Practice Use the On Your Own activity (page 52) as homework or review. Tell students to use what they learned in the lesson to complete the assignment. Explain that they can choose a topic from the Idea Box or use one of their own. Remind students to include at least two characters to make the use of dialogue realistic. Also suggest that they title their finished narratives.

Where Is It?

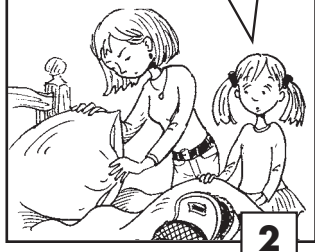
Use the pictures to tell a story.

Don't forget your homework, Su Lin.



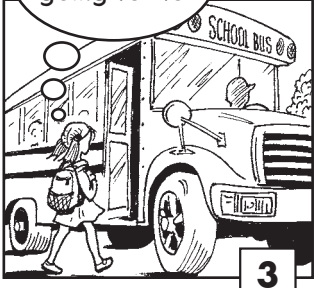
1

It was right here. What happened to it?



2

What am I going to do?



3

My homework was here all along. Phew!



4

- Focus on your writing purpose.
- Think about your audience.
- Tell what is happening and describe the characters.
- Write a good opening sentence.
- Organize the events in order.
- Use dialogue to make the story clear.
- Write your narrative on another sheet of paper.

Writing Purpose/Audience _____

What Is Happening _____

Character 1 _____ Character 2 _____

Opening Sentence _____

Order of Events _____

Dialogue _____

On Your Own

Choose a story topic from the Idea Box or think of one of your own. Complete this page. Then, write your narrative on another sheet of paper.



- The Lost Baseball Glove
- The Lost Library Book
- The Lost Violin Bow
- My Idea: _____

Writing Purpose/Audience _____

What Is Happening _____

Character 1 _____

Character 2 _____

Opening Sentence _____

Order of Events _____

Dialogue _____

Student Assessment Checklist

Narrative Writing

1. Focused on the writing purpose.
2. Established the situation.
3. Established real or imagined characters.
4. Developed a good opening sentence.
5. Addressed the audience appropriately.
6. Organized the events in sequence.
7. Included dialogue.
8. Used sensory words.
9. Used transitional words.
10. Provided a conclusion.
11. Wrote a narrative.

**More Things
to Check**

- Capitalized proper nouns.
- Capitalized the first word of sentences.
- Used correct punctuation.
- Spelled words correctly.
- Followed correct paragraph form.