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INTERNATIONAL GIRLS' SCHOOL

Dehradun

HOLIDAY HOMEWORK - CLASS V

ENGLISH

Story Writing

Instructions:

- **Steps to writing a good story:**

Step 1: Think of an idea

A good place to start is by reading a book together. Stop and ask your child to make predictions about how the story might end. Your child's alternative ending may become great material for a new and original story. You can also write stories based on real-life experiences, such as your child's first day of school, an adventure in the park, or losing their first tooth.

Step 2: Create a character and a setting

Ask your child to create a character and a setting. Will their main character be a child, an adult, or even an animal? Will the story be set in the local park, a different country, or even outer space? Let your child's imagination run wild and avoid being critical or adding your own creative flair to their ideas.

Step 3: The Beginning

All good children's stories have a beginning, middle and an end. Ask your child to expand on their original story idea and set the opening scene. What's special or different about their main character? Maybe it's a cat who enjoys taking baths, a superhero who can't fly, or a princess who lives in a cave!

Step 4: The Conflict

A story with no conflict can be rather dull. Help your child understand the concept of conflict in a story by revisiting some of their best-loved books. Explain to them when a conflict arises and

encourage them to create one for their own story. They can even introduce a new character to shake things up!

Step 5: The Turning Point

The turning point is usually in the middle of the story, and helps to make a story more interesting. It can be an eureka moment, a time where a character discovers a hidden superpower, or a surprise that throws the whole story into a spin. Ask your child to think of something that the reader would least expect. It doesn't always have to make sense – this is your child's time to unleash their imagination!

Step 6: The Resolution

A good story doesn't finish without a final resolution. Ask your child how the conflict in their story pans out. Challenge them to link the conflict with the turning point to create a meaningful resolution.

Step 7: The End

A satisfying ending is the perfect way to finish a story. What happened to the characters once their conflict became resolved? Were they able to finally achieve something, or did they learn an important lesson as a result?

- **Make a rough draft before each story and write it down before the final draft.**
- **Mind mapping should be done before the final draft in writing.**
- **Make a creative cover page for each story.**

EXERCISE:

Write stories on the topics given below and make some creative illustrations for each story.

- 1. What would it be like to live in a world where everyone's dreams came true?**
- 2. Think of one of your favorite stories from your childhood – and then rewrite it with an alternate ending.**
- 3. A day in the life of my pet.**

Personal Journal

Writing Diary Entries

Diary entries can be long. They can be short. They can be specific. They can be broad. Whatever type of diary you decide to write should relate to the entries within it.

Your diary entries should be shorter narratives, and here are 8 tips to consider when writing entries:

1. Brainstorm what you're going to write about

Take a few minutes before you begin writing to decide what your entry is going to be about. Hopefully you have already decided what your diary is about, so dig a bit deeper into the topic or topics you have decided to focus on and get specific.

2. Ask yourself questions

To get yourself writing, ask yourself questions:

- What did you learn today?
- What do you want to accomplish?
- What do you want to fix?
- How are you feeling?

These can relate to your general life, or specific parts of it, but turn inward and ask yourself things.

3. Write down your answers

Your diary entry can be your answers to the questions you have asked yourself. This is a great way to get writing when you don't know what to write about.

4. Pick a format

Your entries can be in all different types of formats, depending on what you're writing about. Maybe you are making a list of things you want to accomplish in your future. Maybe you're writing about a conversation you had, or wish you had. Maybe your entry is just bullet points of thought you have had that day. Some people prefer writing in short notes, others like writing in detailed paragraphs. Decide what you enjoy most and go for it.

5. Make them different

Try and have a variety of different entries, so you don't get bored. You may be writing about a certain type of topic, but you never want to write the same entry. Differentiating your entries will also highlight progresses you've made and things you have learned.

6. Don't be hard on yourself while you're writing

Your diary is a judgement-free zone, so don't feel like they need to be perfect. Let the words flow.

7. Keep your thoughts in order

Your entries date themselves, so you know when you write what, but also try and keep your thoughts in order. Your diary will become a journey as you add more entries; try to keep the narrative something you can follow. For example, try to write about events in the sequence they happened. Avoid jumping around.

8. Get your creative juices flowing

Your entries don't just have to be words; Penzu also lets you add pictures. Adding some visuals to your entries will add some colourful and vibrant reminders.

Keys To Successfully Writing a Diary

A diary is a personal journey and should not be compared to any other writings, but here are a few ways you can get the most out of your experience.

- Be honest

Your diary is for your eyes only, so be honest with yourself. Don't hide anything or hold back.

- Be frequent

The more often you write the better.

- Be natural

Don't try to write a certain way, just be yourself.

Exercise: Maintain a personal journal during your holidays.

- *Make sure you try and make entries every day.*
- *Describe the events of the day using adjectives thus improving your vocabulary.*
- *Make an interesting and creative diary cover.*
- *Ensure using Present tense verbs in your entries.*
- *Make honest diary entries and write it in the most natural and simple way possible.*