

Fictional texts

A fictional text isn't based just on facts, but on imagination. Every author wants to create as much reader interest as possible. The two most important features of fictional texts are the things that happen in a story (plot) and the way the story is told (narrative techniques).

To make a good story great, a writer also needs fascinating characters and an interesting setting.

FACT

The Queen's crown jewels are very valuable.

FICTION

Once there was an angry dwarf who left his village to find ...

1 Narrative perspectives

A first-person narrator

Read the text and fill in	the ga	ps.		
first-person narrator	not	third-person narrator	main character	reader
narrative perspective				
The way a reader experiences a story strongly depends				
on who tells it (<u>narrative</u>				
perspective).			It's Christmas Day	

tells the story from his/her own perspective.

______, but not always.

The <u>reader</u> can identify with this

This kind of narrator is often the <u>main character</u>

kind of narrator and experience the story together

with him/her.

A third-person narrator

tells the story from the 'outside'. This perspective is

not that of the main character.

It's Christmas Day. I know this is the last time I'll see him. He's old and very ill. And I live far away from home.

It was Christmas Day.
She knew this was the last time she would see him.
He was old and very ill.
And she lived far away from home.

 $\textbf{dwarf} \ [\text{dwp:}f] \ \text{Zwerg/-in} \ \bigcirc \ \textbf{to} \ \textbf{identify with sb} \ [\text{ar'dentifar wi}\theta] \ \text{sich mit jmdm. identifizieren}$



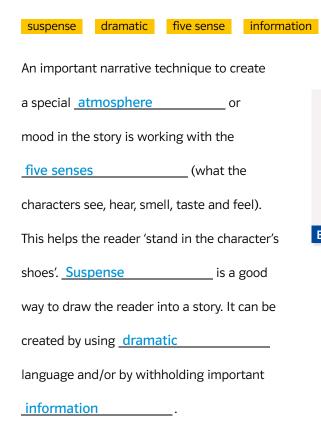
She makes me really nervous.

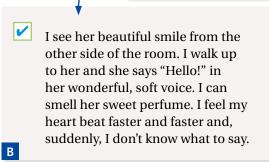


2 Atmosphere and suspense

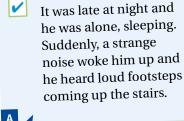
- a) Read the explanations on the left and fill in the gaps.
- b) Then decide which examples (A or B) create more atmosphere and/or suspense. Tick

 ✓ the right boxes.





atmosphere



One night, he woke up when his brother came home. He was scared because he didn't know it was his brother.

3 Structural elements of a story

Match the sentence parts. There are two sentence parts you don't need.

