

Does your science fiction story include...	
a futuristic or space-themed setting?	
a main character from another world or time?	
characters' feelings being shown to build tension?	
dialogue to create atmosphere or advance the action?	
short, snappy sentences for effect?	
imaginary, futuristic terminology?	
a problem that is resolved by a character?	

What Might the Characters Be Like?

alert, alluring, bizarre, captivating, charming, compelling, confusing, curious, enchanting, fascinating, intelligent, interesting, intriguing, mystifying, peculiar, perplexing, robotic, secretive, unusual

What Might the Setting Be Like?

astounding, breathtaking, colourful, desolate, doomed, expansive, fiery, frozen, futuristic, gaseous, lifeless, mountainous, mysterious, rocky, silent, sinister, unexplored

Word Bank

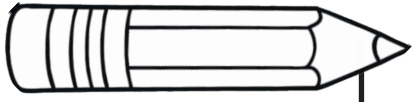
alien	existence	rocket	teleportation
astronaut	extraterrestrial	satellite	toxic
atmosphere	force field	solar system	transported
crater	galaxy	space	voyage
discovery	orbit	spacecraft	unidentified
emergency	planet	terrestrial	universe

Adverbs

abruptly, anxiously, bravely, briskly, courageously, curiously, fearfully, immediately, instantly, mysteriously, rapidly, strangely, suddenly, swiftly, unexpectedly

Sentence Openers

After a harrowing journey,
 After endless months of searching,
 Among the stars,
 As the rocky ground trembled,
 During the exhilarating voyage,
 Fascinated by its appearance,
 In a galaxy far away,
 In the distance,
 Looming on the horizon,
 Peering around the unfamiliar environment,
 Under the shimmering beams of moonlight,
 Walking on the surface of the planet,
 With a blinding flash of light,
 When the astronaut took their first steps,



Examples of Key Features

a futuristic or space-themed setting

a main character from another world or time

characters' feelings being shown to build tension

dialogue to create atmosphere or advance the action

short, snappy sentences for effect

imaginary, futuristic terminology

The Voyage to Poldistor (an extract)

Commander Kennedy had been dreaming of this moment his entire life; it had been his childhood dream to be an astronaut and today was his first expedition. In just a few moments, the spacecraft would open and Kennedy would be the first person to step foot on **Poldistor** - the remote planet never before visited by humans.

After a harrowing yet exhilarating journey, the spacecraft landed. **The colour drained from Kennedy's face and his heart thumped.** The moment was here. Kennedy nodded to the pilot, placed on his helmet and took a deep breath as he clambered out of the spacecraft.

The chill of the frosty air instantly struck Kennedy; the tips of his ears and nose immediately started to tingle. What lay before him looked like nothing that he had ever seen before: a landscape of purple mountains towered over him while thick clouds of gas radiated from every pitted crater. Kennedy edged carefully across the burnt-orange terrain, being careful to dodge the rockpools which were oozing with vivid, green slime. Underneath his boots, he

noticed a peculiar footprint; it was double the size of Kennedy's foot and it had seven, long toes. Crouching down, he ran his hand over the fascinating discovery when he suddenly heard an ear-piercing shriek directly behind him. **Kennedy gasped...**

Peering over him, was an extraterrestrial creature with a thick, wrinkled snout like an elephant and three pairs of beady eyes which bored into him. The captivating creature's skin was aquamarine and translucent; large, pink boils covered every inch of its slimy body.

"What do you think you're doing here? Humans are not welcome," squeaked the creature.

"Uhh... uh... I'm sorry. I'm so excited to be here. Who are you?" Kennedy stammered. **Beads of sweat formed on his forehead underneath his helmet.**

The creature extended a pointed claw towards him and cried, "You're coming with me."

