

Does your traditional story include...

talking animals as some of the main characters?	
character names that tell you about their personality, e.g. Big, Little, Bad?	
a countryside or forest setting?	
a repeated phrase?	
a moral or lesson?	
dialogue to advance the action?	
expanded noun phrases and adverbs to add detail?	
a happy ending for the main characters?	

Conjunctions

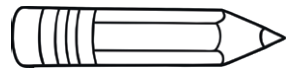
after, because, before, if, since, when, while

What Might the Setting Be Like?

abandoned, ancient, antiquated, deserted, desolate, dilapidated, dreary, enchanted, forgotten, haunted, mysterious, mystical, sinister, unearthly

Word Bank

adventure	destiny	journey	princess
beautiful	enchanted	kidnapped	prophecy
brave	evil	kingdom	quest
captured	fairy	magic	spell
castle	forest	magical	wicked
cottage	granted	potion	wishes
cursed	in love	prince	witch

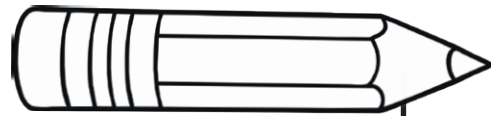


What Might the Characters Be Like?

brave, charming, clever, cruel, destined, enormous, evil, fearless, frightful, generous, gentle, ghastly, graceful, grumpy, handsome, helpful, hideous, intelligent, royal, selfish, strict, unfair, unkind, wise

Sentence Openers

Between the trees,
Obviously angry,
Miraculously,
With magical powers,
Deep below the castle,
Between the land and the sky,
Since sunrise,
Among the branches,
In the depths of the cave,
On top of the tallest tree,
In the middle of nowhere,
Flying into a jealous rage,
Entranced by its beauty,
Disgusted by the stench,
As swift as an eagle,
Like a polished jewel,
Dancing among the stones,
After travelling for many days
and nights,
In the distance,
In a land far, far away,



Examples of Key Features

talking animals as some of the main characters

character names that tell you about their personality

a countryside or forest setting

a repeated phrase

a moral or lesson

dialogue to advance the action

expanded noun phrases and adverbs to add detail

a happy ending for the main characters

Thomas and Old Trickster

In a land far, far away, there lived a clever, young boy named Thomas. Hard-working Thomas lived with his father in their forest cottage. Thomas's father was a happily retired soldier until officers from the king's court visited the cottage and announced that Thomas's father would no longer receive his retirement pay. Distraught, Thomas's father declared they were ruined.

"I'll go and ask Old Trickster, the witch that lives in the cave on the other side of our forest. She will know what to do," Thomas replied bravely. At sunrise, Thomas set off and wandered through the tall, dark trees. Old Trickster had a reputation for casting mischievous spells on visitors she didn't like so Thomas decided to bring some cakes to tempt her to help.

Soon, he came upon the witch's dank and musty cave. From the depths of the cavern, he could hear her call out, "Come in Thomas. I've been expecting you." All of a sudden, Thomas was turned upside down and hung suspended in the air. The witch laughed hysterically.

"Please let me go! I'll do anything if you will help my father and me. Please let me go!"

Cackling, she replied, "Alright Thomas. My favourite pet squirrel has escaped into the forest. Catch her and bring

her back to me. I'll cast a spell that will fill your little cottage with gold."

Thomas reluctantly agreed to help. Soon, he trapped the elusive squirrel. Suddenly, the squirrel pleaded with Thomas, "Please let me go! The witch kidnapped me and is holding me for ransom. I'm really a princess."

"What? How is that possible?" asked Thomas in shock. An animal had never spoken to him before and he thought it was another trick.

"She tricked me into drinking a potion. That purple spotted toadstool there will break the spell. I was just about to eat it when you caught me. Please let me go! I just really want to get home to my parents."

Thomas was an honourable young man so he let the squirrel princess go. He knew he would have to find another solution to his own problem. Hungrily, the squirrel ate the magical toadstool and immediately transformed back into a princess. As a reward, she offered Thomas's father a job as chief baker at her castle. They moved into the princess's castle and lived in wealth. Not long after that, a great storm levelled the forest, swept away Thomas's old cottage and Old Trickster's cave was covered in rocks. She was never seen again.