

Lesson 3: Create the Setup

UNIT: Funny Memories

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hi, it's Anne.

One time, my friend got to go on a rafting trip. On a trip like this, people paddle rafts through rushing rivers.

Before going on the rafting trip, my friend had to get ready. Take a look at how the day started.

DISCUSSION 1

Discuss: What did you notice in this video?

HOOK 2

Maybe you noticed that there was a river, or that people were putting on safety equipment like helmets, or maybe you noticed the yellow rafts. You may have noticed something else, and that's great.

My friend wanted to write a story about his amazing rafting day so that he could share it with others. Here's how he started his story:

"I started my rafting trip at the edge of a river. There were lots of people there as well as the guide for our trip. I was so excited for this adventure. I carefully stepped into a big yellow raft. Then we started paddling down the river!"

Notice how my friend made sure to include where he was—the edge of the river; who was there—lots of people and the guide; and what was happening—he got in the boat and started to paddle. He also included other details like how he felt and what the raft looked like. All these parts make for a great beginning to his story.

I know how the day began—so it was even more exciting later on when he wrote about his main event, the big splash. Check it out.

You're working on writing a story, too. Your story is a funny memory about a time you laughed. When you write the beginning of your story, you can include where your story happened, who was there, and what was happening before the funny moment. You can also add more details about any of these three parts to help your reader know everything that was going on. That way, your reader will be even more surprised and excited when the funny moment happens.

Today, you'll write the beginning of your story. You'll use the "before" section of your plan. You'll turn the ideas you wrote into sentences one at a time. Then in later lessons, you'll write the rest of your story.

I'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

Get your supplies.

STEP 2

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near.

When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 3

In today's lesson, you'll need someone to share ideas with. This could be a partner or someone you sit near.

When everyone knows who their talk partner is, move on to the next step.

STEP 4

Find the "Where were you?" section in your plan. Take thirty seconds to picture that place in your mind.

Picture yourself there. Remember the time of day, the weather, and anything else you remember. If you want, you can close your eyes to picture your memory in your mind.

Take turns telling your partner what you pictured about where your story takes place.

STEP 5

In your plan, you probably already wrote the name of the place where your story takes place. But you might remember details about that place, like what type of day it was, the weather, or what it looked like.

If you shared any details with your partner that you would like to include in your story, you can add them to your plan here. For now, you don't need to write in complete sentences. You can write just a few words to remember your ideas.

STEP 6

Find the "Who was there?" and "What's happening?" parts of your plan. Take thirty seconds to picture the people and what was happening right before your funny moment. If you want, you can close your eyes to picture your memory.

Take turns telling your partner about who was there and what was happening.

STEP 7

If you shared any details with your partner that you would like to include in your story, you can add them to your plan now.

STEP 8

When you write the beginning of your story, you will include all the parts in the "before" section of your plan: where your story takes place, who was there, and what was happening. As the writer, you can decide which of these three parts you want to write about first.

Read the three sections in the "before" section of your plan. Choose which one you want to begin your story with. Write the number "1" next to the one you picked. As the writer, it's totally up to you.

STEP 9

Now you know how your story will start, but you need all three parts to make a complete beginning.

Take a look at the other two sections on your plan. Decide which one you will write about second and which one you will write about third.

Write numbers "2" and "3" next to the other sections in whatever order you want. As the writer, it's totally up to you.

STEP 10

When writers begin to write, they can use their plan to write sentences one at a time. Check it out. When my friend planned to write about his rafting adventure, he decided to start with where his story takes place. In his plan, it says "river," "afternoon," and "yellow rafts." He used his first two details to write a sentence: "One afternoon, I was at the edge of a river." Then he added another sentence with his next detail: "There was a group of yellow rafts in the river." He used all of his details to start his story.

You might be starting your story with where it happens, or you may have picked something else, and that's okay.

Get your Beginning worksheet. Read the details in the section that you marked as number one. You might write each detail as its own sentence, or you can combine more than one detail to make longer sentences. If you want, you can use one of these to begin your story. Begin writing at the star.

STEP 11

Nice job, writers!

Now you can write a few more sentences that include the other two parts of your "before" section. You can always add extra details to your writing if you want. You'll have a chance to make changes later on.

STEP 12

Nice job, writers!

You wrote a beginning for your story. Before we move on, you can double check to make sure you have all the parts one at a time. Let's start with where your story happens. Read your writing. Make sure you included where your story happens. If you did, you can check it off on your plan like this.

If you're missing any details, you can add them to your story now.

STEP 13

Read your writing. Make sure you included who was there. It might have just been you or maybe others were there too. If you included who was there, you can check it off on your plan like this.

If it's missing, you can add it to your story now.

STEP 14

Read your writing. Make sure you included what was happening. If you did, you can check it off on your plan like this.

If it's missing, you can add it to your story now.

STEP 15

Take turns sharing your beginning with your partner. If you want, you can make changes.

WRAP UP

Amazing job, writers!

You just wrote the beginning of your funny memory. So far, your story may not be funny yet, and that's okay. The beginning that you wrote today will help your reader be able to

picture how your story began. That will make the next part of your story surprising and exciting.

In the next lesson, you'll draft the main event of your story: your funny moment.

Make sure you put your V.I.P.s somewhere safe, and I'll see you next time.