

# Narrative tools

It was a regular afternoon. I was playing in the backyard with my sister.

1. Sensory description (see, hear, feel, smell, taste)
2. Add a tone

We ran and threw water balloons.

1. Add sensory details and/or figurative language
2. Replace average verbs with active verbs

We chucked rubbery water grenades at each other, delighting in the soft splats and shrieking with glee.



My mom slept in a chair next to my bed while I lay still and stared out the window.

1. Add sensory details and/or figurative language
2. Replace average verbs with active verbs
3. Give this sentence a tone (Is the speaker bored? Anxious? Sarcastic? Disgusted?)

Maria quickly said to her mother, “I just can’t give away my things.”

1. Identify the nouns
2. Replace vague nouns with specific nouns
3. Identify the verbs
4. Replace average verbs with active verbs
5. Give this sentence a tone (Is Maria nostalgic? Angry? Desperate? Despairing?)
6. Write a response for Maria’s mother
  - \*Begin a new paragraph



Elizabeth responded to his question: “Never in a million years.”

1. Identify the nouns
2. Replace vague nouns with specific nouns
3. Identify the verbs
4. Replace average verbs with active verbs
5. Get rid of the cliché
6. Give this sentence a tone (Is Elizabeth disgusted? Dismissive? Shocked? Amused?)
7. Create a second character and give them a line (can be before or after Elizabeth’s line)

\*Begin a new paragraph