


Your target for this week is...

To write your own  
fantasy story based  
on dragons!





Day 3

## Learning Question:

How do I write the dilemma in my fantasy story?

## Success Criteria:

Introduce a problem

Use short sentences to create drama and suspense

Use dramatic vocabulary to create an atmosphere

Vary sentence openers

Include punctuated dialogue

## Vocabulary

- Cemetery
- Average
- Frequently
- Especially
- Vegetable

**Sentence Scribe**

Write a sentence using this word.

**frequently**

Often.

**Character Traits**

Write a short description of a character in a situation where they might be doing something in this way.



# SPaG Shape-Up

## Punctuation

### Possessive Apostrophes

Can you rewrite these descriptions using a possessive apostrophe in the correct place?

For example:

the tail that belongs to the lion        the lion's tail

1. the boots that belong to the boy
2. the books that belong to the library
3. the leaflets that belong to the museum
4. the toys that belong to the dog



Now write four sentences using these examples.

Reorder these sentences so the adverbial is at the start. Don't forget to punctuate them correctly.

The despondent slayer climbed onto his trusty horse miserably.

The infant dragon approached the slayer cautiously.

There were 3 dragons all of a sudden.

# Today we will be focusing on...

## the dilemma

The worksheet is set against a background of a grey mountain range under a blue sky. It contains several text boxes for writing a story, with arrows indicating a flow from left to right.

**Characters**      **Setting**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**Opening**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Build up**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dilemma**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Vocabulary**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Ending**      **Moral**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

# Today we will be focusing on...

## the dilemma

### 3. Dilemma

- introducing a problem
- using 'empty' words, e.g. 'someone' to create suspense
- using short sentences to be dramatic
- strengthening nouns and verbs rather than adding adjectives and adverbs
- employing suspense words such as 'suddenly', 'without warning'
- drawing the reader in by asking a question
- occasionally breaking the sentence rule by using a fragment to emphasise a point, e.g. 'Silence!'
- varying sentence openings by sometimes starting with an adverb, e.g. 'Carefully'; a prepositional phrase, e.g. 'At the end of the street'; a subordinate clause, e.g. 'Although she was tired, Vanya . . . ' or 'Swinging his stick in the air, he . . . '
- delaying the revealing of the 'monster' by shadows, sounds, etc.
- using ominous sounds, darkness or cold to build the tension



# Example Story Dilemma

He exclaimed, “Oh my God!” as he remembered the stories his grandfather used to tell him about the giant red dragon that had been known to roam the land...

Now Jack was not, by nature, a particularly courageous child, but nor was he a coward. His grandfather had been a dragon slayer, his father had been a dragon slayer and now it would appear, it was his chance to follow in their footsteps. Although his mother had been gone a long time now, he always remembered her telling him he should face his fears head on: “It is more than likely the fear of the unknown that is worse than what you have to face, Jack,” he recalled her telling him. So with the image of his mother’s encouraging face firmly planted in his mind, he knew what he had to do – he stood up, walked purposefully to fetch his gleaming sword and hefty shield from the cupboard and marched determinedly to the door. Taking a deep breath, he opened it and took a step outside; the fog was just as thick but he could still make out the silhouette of the dragon – just there, as if it was waiting for him. “It is more than likely the fear of the unknown that is worse than what you have to face,” again his mother’s words echoed in his head. It was time.



# Example Story Dilemma

After about half an hour of trudging through the dank, misty moors, his feet wading through mud that seemed to be threatening to swallow him at any moment, he reached his destination. And there, sure enough, was the fiery-red dragon with gleaming diamonds for eyes, a long, snake-like tail and talons as sharp as a razor. As it saw Jack approaching, it let out a deafening roar that shook the ground surrounding it (as if to say, “Come on then, I’ve been waiting for you!”).

Jack drew on all his courage and stuffed his chest out, looking far more mighty than he felt. His mother’s words were still there, but he was fairly certain that actually, the fear of the unknown had not been as bad as the fear of facing this dragon! “Oh well,” he thought, “here goes.” He rushed towards the dragon with his own almighty roar and brandishing his sword out towards it, pounced upwards ready to strike.

# Dilemma Analysis:

## **Characters:**

The author has painted an interesting picture of the main character – he is not what you might initially think of when you imagine a dragon slayer. The author describes him as ‘not very courageous’. Also, the author says he is a child – is this really a job for a child!? However, on the other hand, the author uses words to describe his actions such as: determinedly, purposefully and marched. These all imply that he is daring and strong-minded.

The dragon is described using metaphors and similes to create a fantastically clear image in your head. The image you see is that of a terrifying monster with sharp teeth and claws – it seems willing to destroy anyone or anything in its path.

## **Setting:**

The author continues to add to the eerie setting using phrases such as ‘dank, misty moors’.

## **Atmosphere:**

The author uses phrase such as ‘wading through mud that seemed to be threatening to swallow him at any moment’ which increase the feeling of threat and tension. In addition, the author implies that the dragon’s actions are all aimed at Jack increasing the reader’s concern towards his safety.



# Your Task...

Today you will be writing:

- The dilemma
- Introduce a problem
- Use short sentences to create drama and suspense
- Use dramatic vocabulary to create an atmosphere
- Vary sentence openers
- Include punctuated dialogue
- Make your story exciting and interesting to read

### 3. Dilemma

- introducing a problem
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