

Story Frame (by G. L. Fowler)

Purpose :To focus the reader on basic story content, including the setting and the main characters. Useful for evaluation.

Grade Levels: Regular students in primary grades; less able readers in middle and upper grades.

Description: The Story Frame requires that a student focus on the main characters, the setting, the major events, and the conclusion in a story. Enough information is given in the frame to enable students to put together the basic information required. In primary grades, the teacher will want to work with students as a class or in smaller groups and develop the Story Frame with student input. In middle and upper grades, less prepared readers can complete the activity on their own, filling in the essential information. *The Story Frame may be simplified or made more complex by reducing or increasing the number of main events in the story that are to be included.* It is an excellent device to use with students who need to work with basic information in a story in order to comprehend the idea of story grammar and to apply this concept to an appropriate literature selection.

Sample Story Frame for *Cinderella*, by Charles Perrault

The story takes place in a make believe kingdom where Cinderella lives with her stepmother and sisters in a nice house.

Cinderella is a character in the story who has to do all the chores around the house like a servant.

The fairy godmother is another character in the story who does magic and helps Cinderella go to the ball.

A problem occurs when Cinderella loses one of her glass slippers.

After that, the handsome prince searches in the kingdom for a young lady who can put on the glass slipper he found and have it fit.

The problem is solved when Cinderella tries on the glass slipper, and it fits perfectly.

The story ends with the handsome prince and Cinderella getting married right away, and they live happily ever after.