

Friday 12th November

L.O. Use the senses and 'empty' words to increase tension.

Re-cap of last lesson - Story openings



Senses - generating ideas to 'hide a threat'



Impact of short sentences



Independently write the second section to develop tension

In our last lesson, we used figurative language to help us set the scene of our story. Look back at your work and use the reminders on the next screen to help you show your partner examples from your own writing.

simile: the comparison of one thing with another thing of a different kind, using *as* or *like*.

E.g. as fast as a cheetah / like a bolt of lightning

metaphor: a direct comparison, that states one thing *is* another

E.g. its teeth were daggers / night blanketed the forest

personification: the technique of giving plants or non-living things animal or human qualities

E.g. mournful pines whispered of death / an angry storm

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Box 2:

Tension built – setting used to increase discomfort; unknown threat introduced – MC shows emotions & reacts.
Threat revealed but easily dismissed – tension falls

In this section, the tension rises as our MC imagines that there is a threat to them because of something they can sense (but not see) briefly.

We can see that we could use four tools here:

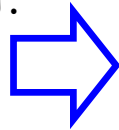
- Make your MC **see, hear, touch, smell or sense** something ominous
- Suggest **something is about to happen**
- Reveal the **character's thoughts**
- **Hide** the threat and other details from the reader - use 'empty' words

Look back at our list of possible settings and animals that live in them which we wrote earlier in the week, and choose a harmless animal to be the cause of the suspense in our shared class writing.

How might the MC sense it? From where? How might he/she react to it?

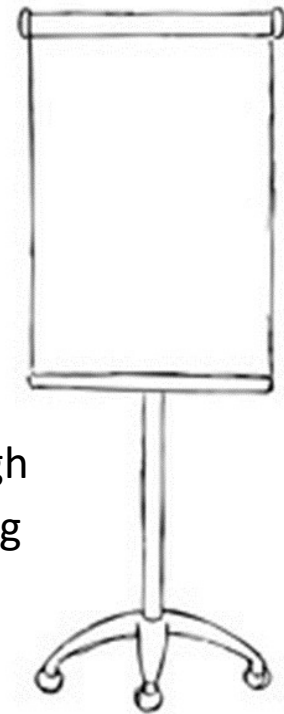
What might they be thinking? How might the animal reveal itself and so reduce the tension?

Let's explore a few ideas with the shared class version on the flipchart.



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The boy sat down under a tree and waited. A bitter wind shivered through the forest, gripping his body in an icy fist. Torak sensed something moving in the dark; something watching him. He gripped a thin flake of flint and waited. A squirrel ran down a tree trunk, its beady eyes picking him out. Then it scurried back up and was lost into the treetops.



Now it's time to choose your animal to increase tension for your own story - **add notes to your box-up sheet** about how it will do this, and **then write the next section**.

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