

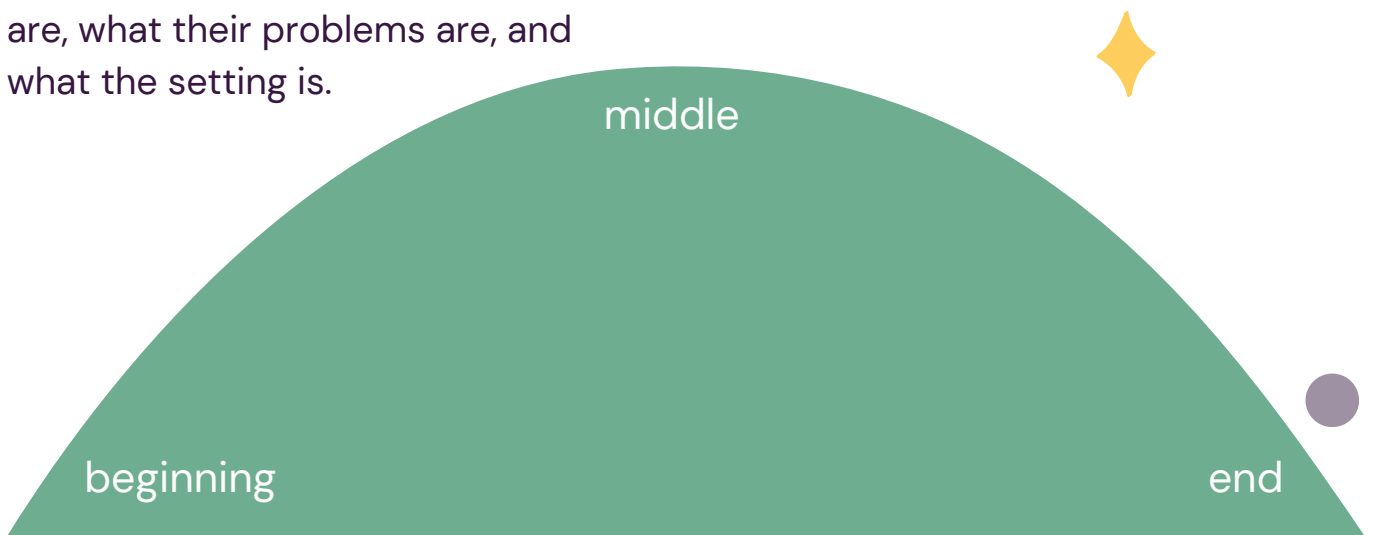
# Story Structure

Every story has a beginning, middle and end. If you think of a story like a mountain to climb, what happens at each point?

The beginning should let the audience know who the characters are, what their problems are, and what the setting is.

The middle will tell us what the main action of the story is.

The end will tell us how it gets resolved or what the purpose of the journey was.



**Beginning:** Sun was travelling too fast across the sky. Māui suggested slowing it down. **Middle:** Māui and his brothers travelled to the sun and hid with rope. **End:** Māui successfully slowed down the sun, people had more time to do their mahi.

Going up the mountain and going down the mountain should be filled with challenges and obstacles to get to the top and the bottom. Write the beginning, middle and end of your story:



# Story in a Sentence

Writing your story in one sentence is a great way to nail down what your story is about and make sure it has all the key elements to make a great film.

## Key Elements

1. **CHARACTER:** describe their characteristics/ defining traits e.g. a retired assassin or a lonely bully.
2. **MAJOR EVENT:** describe what sets the story in motion, the call to adventure, catalyst, etc.
3. **ACTION/GOAL:** describe what the character tries to achieve for most of the story.

## Optional Elements

1. the **STAKES:** What is at risk? What could they gain or lose?
2. the **OBSTACLE/ANTAGONIST:** what is making it hard for the character to reach their goal? Can be a person, circumstance or a mental block

## What's wrong with these film ideas?

Jill has to win the cross-country race, in order to win back her high school sweetheart. But during the race a terrorist plot is discovered, and she has to protect a team of orphans from the effects of climate change.



A look at the day in the life of a Dairy Farmer.



# Story in Sentence Template

Here are some templates to help you write your story in a sentence.

## Templates

1. When a [CHARACTER], is [confronted by a MAJOR EVENT], s/he must [do the ACTION/GOAL], or else [STAKES].
2. When [MAJOR EVENT occurs] a [CHARACTER] must [ACTION/GOAL].
3. When a [CHARACTER] does a [MAJOR EVENT], a [CONFLICT/OBSTACLE] arises.

## Your Story

Using the templates provided write your story in a sentence (or several)

