**Storytelling and Anecdotes**

Telling stories, recalling events and relating personal anecdotes has been how many cultures and societies have preserved and passed on their traditions. We constantly communicate information through stories e.g. *Wait until I tell you a good one about …* Storytelling is a vital part of everyday conversation and so should be an important feature in all classrooms. Teachers can extend storytelling skills into performance opportunities such as play, recital in drama

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| **Structure**  | **Infants** | **1st/ 2nd**  | **3rd – 6th**  |
| **Beginning**  |
| ***Introduction***  | * Once upon a time…
* Long, long ago…
* One day…
 | * In a faraway land…
* Many years ago…
* Fadó, fadó…
* In the beginning…
* Once there lived….
* Remember when…
* Wait until I tell you…
 | * Long ago in the mists of time…
* This is a story I heard a long time ago…
* We were I the \_\_\_\_ one morning when…
* It was a dark and dismal night….
* It all started when…
* Once upon a time, when the world was young….
* I’m going to tell you a tale about…
* One day, not too long ago…
* It had all happened so quickly…
* That reminds me of…
* I have a story to tell you about….
* Did you hear the one about…
 |
| ***Describing Characters***  | * Big/small
* Long/short
* Thin/fat
* Tall/small
* Happy/sad
* Nice/nasty

  | * Flat/lean/thick/wide/round
* Skinny/slim/straight
* Annoyed/pleased
* Horrible/nasty/mean
* Crazy/wild
* Awful/cross/mean/evil/nasty
* Fine/lovely
* Clever/excellent/friendly
* Amazing/brilliant/fantastic
 | * Bloated/broad/bulky/curved/crooked
* Delicate/gangly/gaunt/lanky/plump
* Stocky/stout/symmetrical
* Berserk/enraged/furious/hysterical
* Appalling/beastly/pessimistic/revolting

shameful/shocking/vicious* Attractive/desirable/pleasant/delightful
* Admired/affectionate/appreciated/

considerate/compassionate/enthusiasticgenerous/genuine/gracious/obedient* Exceptional/fabulous/glorious/superb
 |
| ***Describing setting***  | * Above/below
* Behind/beside
* Up/down
* Hot/cold
* Wet/dry
* Big/small/little
* Loud/quiet
 | * At the end
* To the left/to the right
* Inside/middle
* Outside
* Calm/clear/cool
* Foggy/misty/icy
* Freezing/warm/wet
* High/huge/large/long/tall
* Little/low/short/tiny
* Banging/crashing/hissing

howling/hooting * Blast/noisy/roar/scream
* Low/gentle/silent/soft
 | * Among/across/against/around
* Between/beneath
* Beyond/closely
* Throughout/underneath/toward
* Balmy/humid/muggy/overcast
* Blazing/scorching/tropical
* Blizzard/gust/severe/squall
* Dense/drizzly/gale/heavy
* Colossal/enormous/immense/gigantic

 massive/vast * Microscopic/miniature/miniscule

narrow/shallow/slight * Babbling/buzz/clatter/high-pitched

screeching/shrieking/snarling/whining * Deafening/ear-splitting/shrill/uproar
* Dull/faint/inaudible/mumble/murmur

rustle/whisper  |
| **Middle**  |
| ***Time connectives***  | * Then
* Next
 | * Firstly, secondly
* While/since
* Then one day….
* Now when….
* The next day/morning….
* On his way….
* Suddenly…
 | * Meanwhile/eventually
* But as soon as….
* It wasn’t long before….
* Soon afterwards….
* Along came….
* That very morning/day….
* All at once….
* All of a sudden….
* Out of the blue….
 |
| ***Words instead of went***  | * Drove
* Flew
* Cycled
* Ran
* Walked
 | * Climbed
* Crawled
* Jumped/hopped
 | * Crept/tip-toed/roamed/meandered
* Floated/drifted/slithered
* Screeched/skidded/squeezed
* Strode/stormed/thumped/thundered
* Tumbled/zoomed/ambled/trekked
 |
| ***Words instead of said***  | * Said
* Shouted
* Roared
 | * Answered
* Called
* Cried
* Screamed
* Thought
 | * Added/admitted/announced/agreed
* Boasted/bragged/
* Complained/concluded/confessed
* Denied/described/discussed
* Encouraged/explained/exclaimed
* Informed/interrupted
* Moaned/pleaded/protested
* Remarked/replied/reminded
* Sighed/suggested/urged/uttered
* Commanded/declared/directed

Insisted/instructed * Examined/inquired
 |
| **End**  |
| ***Connectives***  | * So
 | * After
* Although
* Even though
* As
 | * Even though/lest/provided/unless
* In order that/since/so that
* Except/however/save
* As though/neither/otherwise/whereas

therefore/whenever/whereby  |
| ***Conclusion***  | * They all lived happily ever after
 | * …and nothing was heard of the \_\_\_\_\_ ever again
* And that was the last that was seen/heard of….
* And that was the end of that
 | * …and so we’ll never know what really happened
* …it had finished, at last
* … and so it was over
* …and now we could all have a well-earned rest
* ...and I can’t wait to do it again!
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