**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/enthusiastic  generous/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! |