

A Seven-Sentence Story

All stories have just a few important elements in common: setting, characters, problem, climax and resolution. You can combine these into a simple, seven-sentence story, adding as much detail as you like. Here's the model:

A Harrowing Night!

by Sally Student

Janet was fast asleep in her bed when a noise woke her up. She heard footsteps crunching on the gravel below her window. She was sure someone was trying to break into the house! Quietly, Janet slipped out of bed and tiptoed into her parents' bedroom. Her dad grabbed his flashlight and shined it outside the bedroom window, waiting for the prowler to come around again. After walking all the way around the house, the prowler turned the corner, saw the light, and took off running. Janet went back to bed, but had a difficult time falling back to sleep that night!

And here are the directions:

A Hairy Problem

By Sally Student

1. **Setting:** Nine-year-old Peggy sat on her bed, refusing to brush her long, thick hair.
2. **Details start the action:** Often, she would let her hair get so tangled that it took her mother an hour to comb it out.
3. **Problem/Conflict:** Mother finally said that Peggy must cut her beautiful hair if she didn't learn to take care of it.
4. **More detail:** Peggy loved long hair, but hated to take care of it, and soon it was tangled again.
5. **Climax:** When she asked her mother to comb out the tangles, her mother agreed but said that Peggy would need to get a haircut the very next day.
6. **Conclusion:** Peggy was horrified to see her shorn locks in the mirror, and she realized how immature she had been about taking care of her hair.
7. **Resolution:** She took very good care of her hair as it slowly grew longer, and her mother never had to comb it for her again.

Write a Seven Sentence Story

1. Setting
2. Details to start the action
3. Problem
4. More detail
5. Climax
6. Conclusion
7. Resolution