

# Make Your Writing Sparkle! Year 5 and 6

## Text Structure

- Opening that includes setting ( of place and time ) and introduces characters.
- A series of events that builds up.
- A complication and series of 'cliffhangers'.
- Resulting events.
- Resolution and ending.

## Sentence/Word Level Features

- Written in the first or third person.
- Written in the past tense.
- Chronological – perhaps with possible use of time shifts.
- Use time connectives eg *first thing that day, later on...*
- Connectives to inject suspense eg *suddenly, without warning...*
- Dialogue in different tenses.
- Verbs to describe actions, thoughts and feelings.
- Language effects eg *adverbs, adjectives, precise nouns, expressive verbs, metaphors, similes...*
- Use exclamations for impact eg *Help!*
- Use questions to draw the reader into events.



## Adventure Stories



## Making the Text Interesting

- Know the story ending so that events can be planned and written accordingly.
- Avoid telling the reader what to feel eg *it was scary*, but make the reader feel it through description.
- Avoid telling the reader what the character feels eg *she was sad*, but show how characters feel through what they say or do eg *her lip trembled*.
- Do not have too many characters.
- Give the main character some sort of flaw to make them more interesting.
- Keep thinking what each character might do or say.
- Plan a few details about your character that tells the reader something about their personality.
- Include weather, season and time of day as part of creating the setting.
- Create suspense, lull the reader into a false sense of security by getting characters to do something pleasant and then introduce a dilemma.
- At the end show how the main character has changed as a result of their adventure.