

Homework - 10/27

Creative Writing - Elementary

Ms. Martocello



Recap In today's creative writing class, we explored some important building blocks of writing: sentence structure and the world of legends/folklore!

We started by reviewing *simple* and *compound* sentences. Remember: a simple sentence has just *one* idea, while a compound sentence has *two ideas* joined by words like *and, but, or so*. We also learned how to identify the *subject* (who or what the sentence is about) and the *predicate* (what the subject is doing).

For Example: "The dog barked."

Here, "The dog" is the subject, and "barked" is the predicate. Simple sentences are clear and straightforward, which makes them great for expressing single ideas.

A compound sentence: "The dog barked, and the cat ran away," each part ("The dog barked" and "the cat ran away") could stand on its own as a sentence, but they're joined to show how the ideas connect. We practiced identifying these conjunctions and saw how they help to make our writing more interesting by connecting ideas.

Then, we dove into the world of folklore by reading "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow". The story focuses on a character named Ichabod Crane, a superstitious schoolteacher who loves to tell ghost stories. One night, Ichabod encounters the legendary Headless Horseman, a spooky figure who rides through the night without a head!

We discussed how The Legend of Sleepy Hollow is a great example of folklore, which is a kind of story that's been told for many years, often with some mystery or lesson. Folklore often explains strange events or teaches a lesson using imaginative characters and settings. In this story, people in the village believe in the Headless Horseman, a ghostly rider who's said to be a soldier searching for his lost head. This makes the story thrilling and mysterious, sparking curiosity about what might happen next!

Reading The Legend of Sleepy Hollow helped us think about how legends can come from stories people have shared over time, sometimes to explain things they couldn't understand, like the sounds in the dark or mysterious events. It's also a way to introduce legends and folklore to students as they get ready to create their own!

Legend/Fable Checklist

Interesting Setting

Where and when does your story happen? Is it in a mysterious forest, a magical kingdom, or a small town?

Unique Characters

Who are the main characters? Are they animals, people, or even mythical creatures? Do they have special traits or powers?

Moral or Lesson (Optional)

Does your story teach a lesson, like being brave or kind? This is more common in fables, but legends can have lessons too!

Problem or Mystery to Explain

What is the mystery or problem in your story? Think of a question like "Why do flowers bloom?" or "How did lions get their roar?"

Imaginative Solution or Explanation

How does your story answer or explain the question? Create a fun, creative solution that makes sense in your story's world!

Descriptive Language

Use exciting words and details to help readers picture what's happening!

FAQ

Homework: Due 11/3

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For homework, students will think of a legend they'd like to write about. It could explain a curious "why" or "how" question like, "Why do stars twinkle?" or "How did mountains come to be?"

Next week, they'll begin to turn these ideas into their very own imaginative legends!