

Comprehension: Story Elements **Grade: 2**

LESSON INFORMATION	PASSAGE INFORMATION
<p>Goal: Students learn to identify story elements and use this knowledge to build their mental model of text and respond to questions about the text.</p> <p>Time: 35 minutes</p> <p>Class Size: Individual student or small group</p> <p>Sample Passage Title: Cinderella</p> <p>Materials Needed: Copies of passage and story maps</p>	<p>Genre: Literary</p> <p>Grade: 2</p> <p>Passages: When selecting passages, begin with passages where story elements are easily identified and move to passages where the elements need to be inferred.</p>

Introduction (3 minutes)

1. Preview the text

- Provide a brief explanation of the text.



We are going to read a new passage today. It is a fairy tale about Cinderella, a girl who goes to a ball. You might have heard this story before.

2. Explain the skill

- Provide a brief explanation of the target skill for the lesson.



Today we are going to pay attention to the parts of our story. In every story there are important parts — Setting, Character, Problem, and Solution.

Close Reading (30 minutes)

1. Model the skill

- Provide a brief description of each of the story elements.



A setting is where and when your story takes place. A character is the person, animal, or thing your story is about. There is usually a problem in the story. It's what the character wants or needs, but cannot have. A solution helps a character solve the problem. As we read, we'll look for the parts of the story and note them in our Story Map.

Amplify.

- Begin reading the text as a group. Randomly call on students to read portions of the text. Ensure your pattern of calling on students is unpredictable so all students continue to read along.
- When you come to the first story element, provide the most support for identifying the element. Pause. Name the element. Ask students to stop and write the story element in the correct box on their story maps.



After reading page 1. Let's pause for a minute! I think we just found at least one of our story elements. We found some characters — the people, animals, or things the story is about. The characters in this story are Cinderella, her stepmother, and her stepsisters. I'm going to write this down in the characters box of my Story Map.

2. Practice the skill

- Continue reading the text as a group.
- When you come to later story elements, provide less support. Pause. Ask students to stop and write the story element in the correct box on their story maps.

Example for introducing a later story element:



I think there is another story element on this page. Jot down the story element on your Story Map.

- Call on students to share. Provide positive and corrective feedback.



Which story element did we learn about on this page? What is it?

- Continue reading the story and pause to identify and discuss each story element listed below. Then, add it to the Story Map.

Story Elements

Page	Element	Definition	Description
1	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Cinderella
1	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Stepmother
1	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Stepsisters

Amplify.

1	Problem	The problem is what the character needs or wants but cannot have or something the character doesn't like.	Cinderella's stepmother and stepsisters treat her badly, and they make her do all the chores.
1	Setting	The setting tells where and when the story takes place.	Not explicitly stated — Cinderella's home
2	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Cinderella's parents
3	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Messenger
4	Problem	The problem is what the character needs or wants but cannot have or something the character doesn't like.	Cinderella has to complete all of the chores in time to go to the ball.
5	Solution	The solution is how the problem in the story is solved.	Cinderella completed all of her chores.
6	Problem	The problem is what the character needs or wants but cannot have or something the character doesn't like.	Cinderella's stepmother and stepsisters ruined her gown and necklace.
7	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	Fairy Godmother
8	Solution	The solution is how the problem in the story is solved.	Cinderella's fairy godmother gave her a dress and gown, and she went to the ball.

Amplify.

8	Setting	The setting tells where and when the story takes place.	The ball
8	Character	Character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about.	The prince

3. Ask text-dependent questions



Now that we read the whole story and found our story elements. Let's use what we learned to answer some questions.

1. Who are the main characters in the story? Which character is the story mostly about?

a. Cinderella, her stepmother, and her stepsisters.

2. Who are other characters in the story?

a. Cinderella's parents, the messenger, the fairy godmother, and the prince.

3. What is the main problem in the story? Share some examples of the problem.

a. Cinderella's stepfamily treats her badly. Cinderella wants to go to the ball, but her stepmother gave her an impossibly long list of chores to complete. Then, her stepsisters ruined her dress and necklace.

4. What is the setting of the story?

a. Cinderella's house and then the ball.

5. What is the solution to the problem?

a. The fairy godmother gets Cinderella a new dress and the prince chooses her. She lives happily ever after with him.

Wrap Up (2 minutes)

1. Encourage use of the skill outside of the lesson

- State the target skill and define the story elements.



Today we learned about different parts of a story. The setting is where and when the story takes place. The character is the person, animal, or thing the story is about. The problem is what the character needs or wants but cannot have or something the character doesn't like. The solution is how the problem in the story is solved. Look for these parts while you're reading to help you understand!

Common Core Anchor Standards:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.CCRA.R.3

Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

STORY MAP

The image shows a story map template consisting of five overlapping rectangular boxes. The boxes are arranged in a roughly circular pattern, with each box overlapping the others. The labels for the boxes are:

- Characters**: Located in the top-left box.
- Setting**: Located in the top-right box.
- What else happened?**: Located in the middle-left box.
- Problem**: Located in the middle-right box.
- Solution**: Located in the bottom box.