

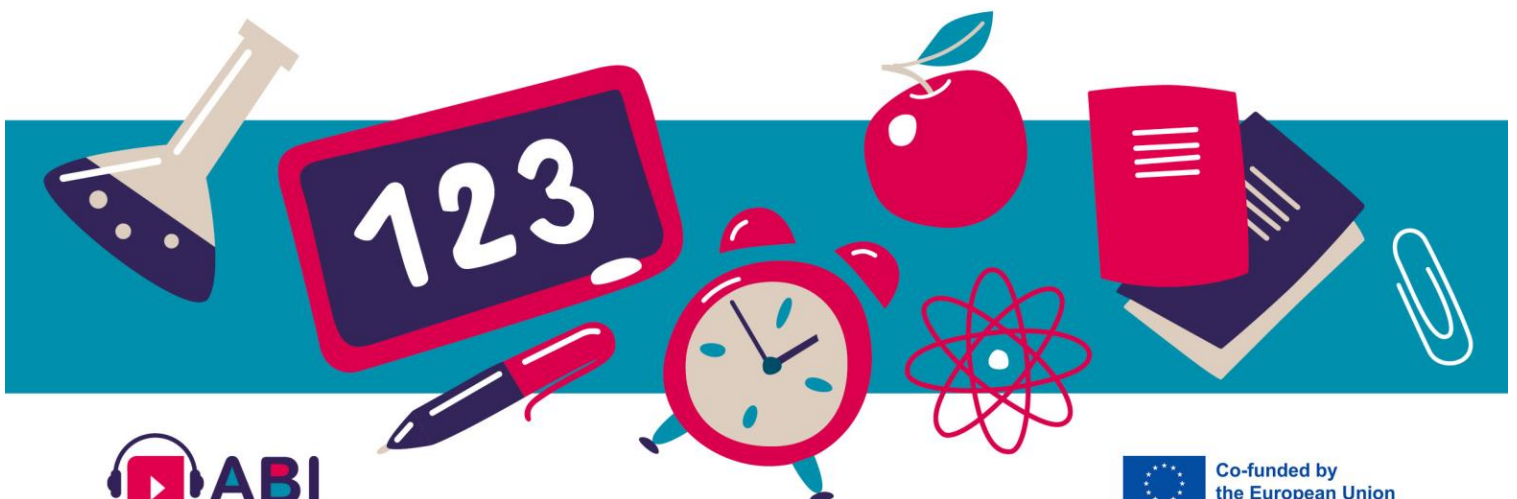


# Practice sheet – UNIT 3

**Objectives:** To learn more about the storytelling strategy; to be able to create an interesting story, with a relatable character, and that achieves the learning objectives.

## What is storytelling?

Storytelling is a strategy that invites learners to listen to a story or write a story themselves, in order to increase their motivation and participation in the process of acquiring new skills. Think about when you were a child, were you more attentive during a math lesson or during story time with the teacher? What information was the easiest to memorise: multiplication tables or the name of the seven dwarves living with Snow White? Chances are, you will say it is the latter. And it would be all thanks to storytelling! Storytelling is a form of expression that we can say is ingrained in human nature, through storytelling humans have not only recounted their experiences but have "invented" meanings to events that would otherwise have no explanation (creation myths). The evolutionary history of humankind shows us how storytelling can be regarded as a necessity, humans moved from oral storytelling in prehistoric times to written storytelling. Storytelling is the basis of sociality and relations between peoples because it allows us to interpret the world around us, to understand it and make it our own in order to share it with others.



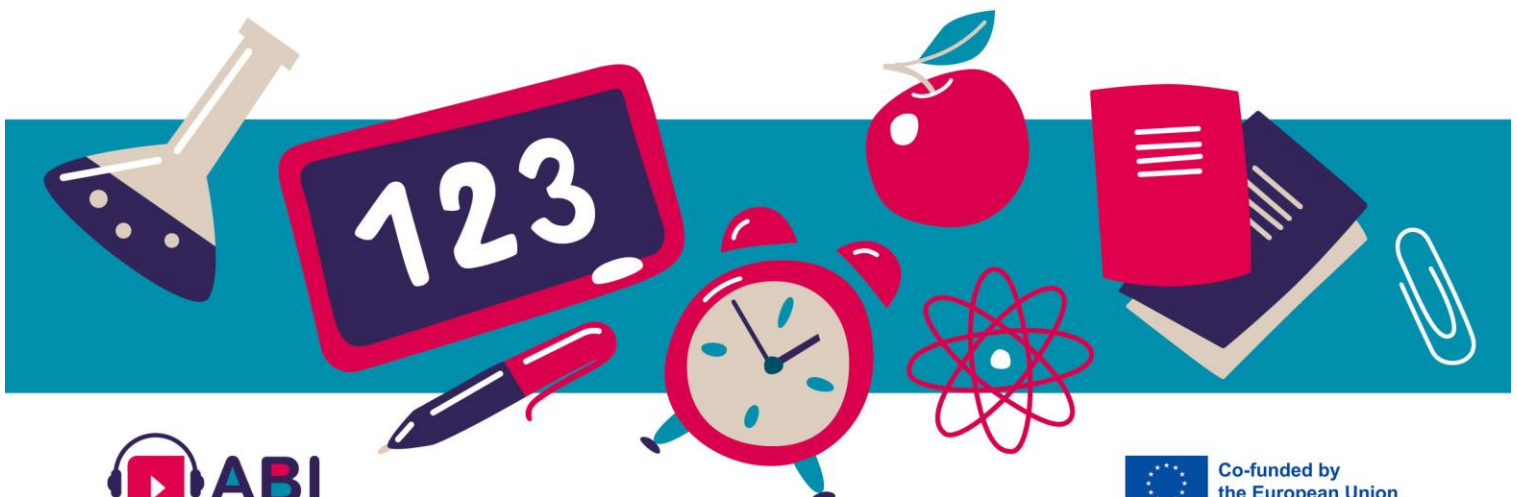


Storytelling is the art of telling stories by drawing on our innate taste for stories. Its aim is to create emotion and a link between the narrator and the audience, to make the experience as vivid and memorable as possible. This age-old communication technique has stood the test of time and is now more relevant than ever, a testament to the power of human connection through storytelling.

## What elements make a good story?

To write a good story, you will need to focus on the following three key elements:

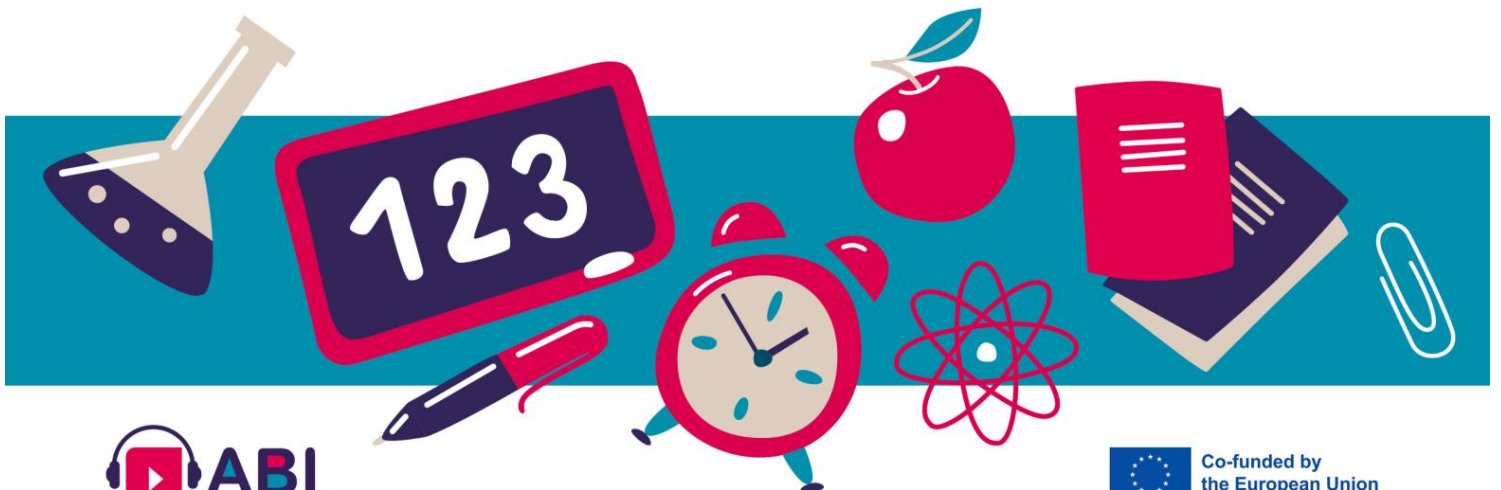
- **The WHO:** Who is the character in your story? How are they relatable? Having a relatable character is one of the most essential components of a good story. It is due to the human need that we have to connect with others. When reading or listening to a story, we are constantly looking to find elements that make us relate to the characters. Therefore, the person writing the story must definitely find a way to make their characters as relatable as possible. A good way to achieve that is by including background information about the characters (e.g. their age, their name, where they live, if they have brothers or sisters, etc.), as well as mini experiences that the characters might go through (e.g. celebrating a birthday, walking in the city, listening to music, etc.). Finally, it is also important to share some of the characters' opinions and feelings. What are they frustrated about? What makes them happy? All those elements will help the audience recognise themselves in the characters, and make them want to listen what will happen to them in the story.





- The WHAT: What is happening in your story? How is it interesting ? One way to ensure that the plot you are developing will catch the audience’s attention is to rely on novelty. Hearing the same stories again and again will eventually cause the audience to lose interest and motivation. That is why it is important to offer new stories that have not yet been told. We can find our inspiration in our everyday life, or in the stories of others (?).
- The WHY: What is the point of telling this story? How do we approach our learning objectives?

***Learn more in practice!***  
***Use our worksheet!***





## Write a story : worksheet

### Stage 1: The Main Character

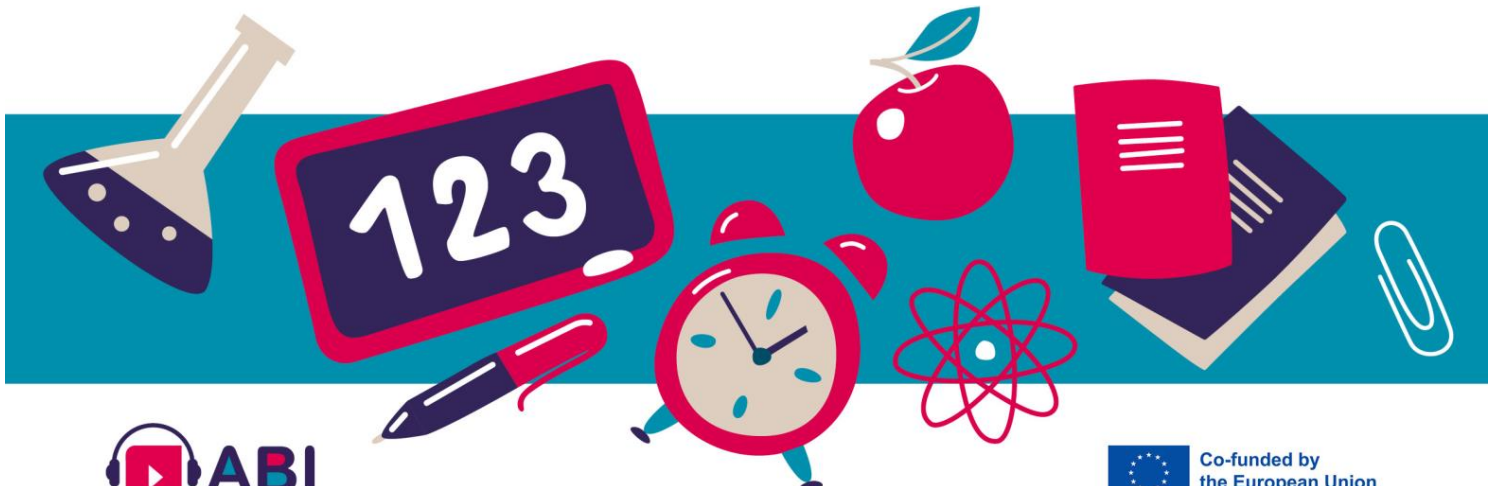
1. Name of the Main Character : .....
2. Age of the Main Character: .....
3. Physical description of the Main Character:  
.....
4. Character traits of the main character (e.g. courageous, shy, funny):  
.....

### Stage 2 : Location

1. Setting of the story (for example: a small town, a desert island, a school):  
.....
2. Description of the place (what makes it special or unique) :  
.....

### Stage 3 : The Problem or the Challenge

1. Main problem of the story (what is the main character's problem) :  
.....
2. Why is this problem important to the main character ? :  
.....







**Stage 4 : The Elements of Plot**

- 1. Key events in the story (list of major events that will occur) :
  - a. ....
  - b. ....
  - c. ....

**Stage 5 : The Secondary Characters**

- 1. Names and descriptions of a few secondary characters (friends, enemies, family members) :
  - a. ....
  - b. ....
  - c. ....

**Stage 6 : The Resolution**

- 1. How will the main character solve the problem or challenge?  
.....

**Stage 7 : The Themes**

- 1. Themes of the story (for example: friendship, courage, discovery) :  
.....

**Stage 8 : The Message**

- 1. What message or lesson will the story convey?  
.....





**Stage 9 : The Title**

1. Find a title for your story: .....

**Stage 10 : Start writing**

1. Use the information you have gathered to start writing your story.

Feel free to complete this worksheet in collaboration with others, such as a writing group or friends, to get different perspectives and ideas. Once you've completed the worksheet, you'll have a solid foundation to start writing your story.

***Happy writing!***

