

English Short Story

OVERVIEW

The aim of this assignment is for students to write a short story on a topic of their choice. The story has to be three pages, minimum and the deadline is at the end of two weeks. Inspiration and the method of how to write a short story can be found on the website www.writingroom.com, where the students will not only create a personal web account but also publish their completed written work.

Students will use WritingRoom to read other peoples texts for inspiration purposes but also for understanding how a story is constructed through reading. The main idea is that the students will become accustomed to the creative process of writing a short story and focus on the improvement of their grammar.

OBJECTIVE

The goal of the assignment:

- Write a short story
- Understanding the principles of writing a short story, through inspiration from Writingroom.
- Publish a completed story on Writingroom

MATERIALS

Writingroom is used as the main source for students' inspiration, they may also use other books (H.C Andersen, Stephen King, J.K Rowling etc.). Computers are essential because the students will be writing their stories and then publishing them on the website.

PROCEDURE

1. As an introductory lesson for the assignment the teacher will read a short story (Randomly picked from Writingroom).
2. The main instructions are handed out on a document regarding how they will be writing their short story (font size, page numbered, deadline, brainstorming tips, grades, evaluation process etc.). The length of the story is 3 pages minimum; they are encouraged to write more if they would like. The teacher goes through the instructions out loud and then asks if anyone has any questions relating to the assignment before continuing on.
3. Students should keep a working log to be turned in at the end of each class so the teacher can monitor the students' progress. Each working log is written at the end of a session and should take between 5-10 minutes.
4. Before the writing process begins the students are directed to Writingroom where they will register for an account and read other stories for inspiration purposes.
5. The teacher will then explain that the short stories will be published on Writingroom, but only after that the teacher has proofread and returned their papers for corrections.
6. Students will be instructed that the deadline for assignment is in 2 weeks (which is also stated in the instructions paper) and that it is critical that they use the time given to them and both work at home and during lesson hours.
7. After 1½ weeks the students are advised to send in their work for feedback before the deadline.
8. Students grades and evaluations are given out with a short comment about what to improve or what to think about in the future.
9. On the last lesson the students will read each others stories and evaluate how the students have felt about the assignment, in short the pros and cons.
10. The stories are published on Writingroom on after they are graded.

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**EVALUATION
&
STANDARDS**

Students' assignments will be evaluated through both their working logs and the use of the following criteria (Based on Swedish School Standards found in *Läroplan för de frivilliga skolformerna, Lpf 94*):

1. Ability to master the Swedish language, to listen and read actively and to express ideas and thoughts in writing. (10 pts)
 2. Ability to communicate in English in both conversation and writing. (10 pts)
 3. Develop ability to create. (5 pts)
 4. Solve practical problems and work assignments. (5 pts)
 5. Believe in their own ability and the possibilities to evolve. (5 pts)
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