



Narrative Techniques

Communication Skills – EN0013



What is a narrative?



Narrative Techniques



Narrative Techniques in Style



Activities

What is a narrative?

Narration is the use of a written or spoken commentary to convey a story to an audience.



Narrative Techniques	Narrative Techniques in Style
1.Purpose	1.Imagery 2.Similes
2.Target Audience	3.Metaphors 4.Hyperbole 5.Personification
3.Setting	6.Adjectives/Adverbs 7.Repetition
4.Point of view	8.Rhetorical Questions 9.Tense



Narrative Techniques

1. The Purpose of the Narration



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graph TD; A[1. The Purpose of the Narration] --> B[To persuade]; A --> C[To inform];
```

To persuade

To inform

The Purpose

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graph TD; A[The Purpose] --> B[a. To persuade]; A --> C[b. To inform];
```

a. To persuade

- Modifies the thinking of the reader/audience
- Motivates the reader/audience to take action or agree with a point of view

Examples:

Women should work after marriage.

Finding a lover on the internet is a good idea.

b. To inform

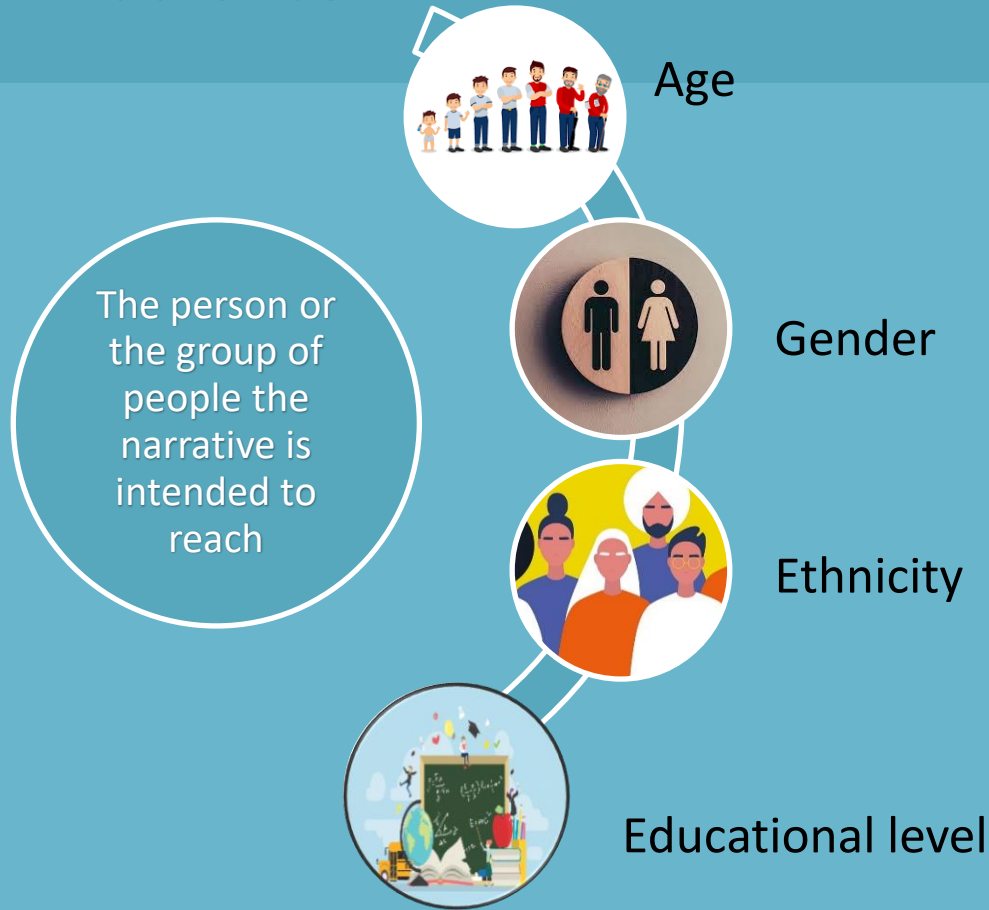
- Provides information
- Objective position (No bias)
- Target audience obtains knowledge about a topic

Examples:

-Toxic chemicals in food

- Effects of COVID-19 home confinement on eating behavior and physical activity

2. Target Audience



3. Setting

The setting is the place and time in which a story takes place.

- *Place: **Geographical** location*
- *Time: **historical** place, **time** of the year*
- *Mood: The **atmosphere** of the story.*

How does the reader feel?

- *relaxed, calm, contemplative, joyous, etc.*

- *Tone: The **author's** attitude towards the topic.*

- *angry, fearful, lonely, humorous, cheerful, etc.*



4. Point of View – Who is telling the Story?

1. The narrator of the story = First person point of view

2. The reader of the story = Second-person point of view

3. An outsider looking in = Third-person narration





Narrative Techniques in Style

1. Imagery

- Language that brings to mind the sensory impressions
- Appeals to our physical senses so that the reader can see, hear, touch, taste and smell.



sight

Visual imagery



Auditory imagery



Tactile imagery



Olfactory imagery



Gustatory imagery



The tiny red ant
climbed up the
broken twig.



The sweet smell of
freshly baked apple
filled the air.



One bite of the
sour lemon caused
my lips to pucker.



The car squeaked
every time I hit
a bump in the road.



The sharp edge of
the paper cut my
finger and made
it sting.

2. Simile



He ran quickly.

He ran as fast as a cheetah.

A comparison between two things using **like** or **as**.

Similes spark reader's/audience's imagination.

More Examples:

As cold **as** a dog's nose.

Soldiers were **as** brave as lions.

Husband and wife fought **like** cats and dogs.

My best friend is **as** funny as a barrel of monkeys.

3. Metaphor

- A metaphor also compares two things, without using **as** or **like**.

Examples:

The shop was a little gold mine.

Kasun is an early bird.

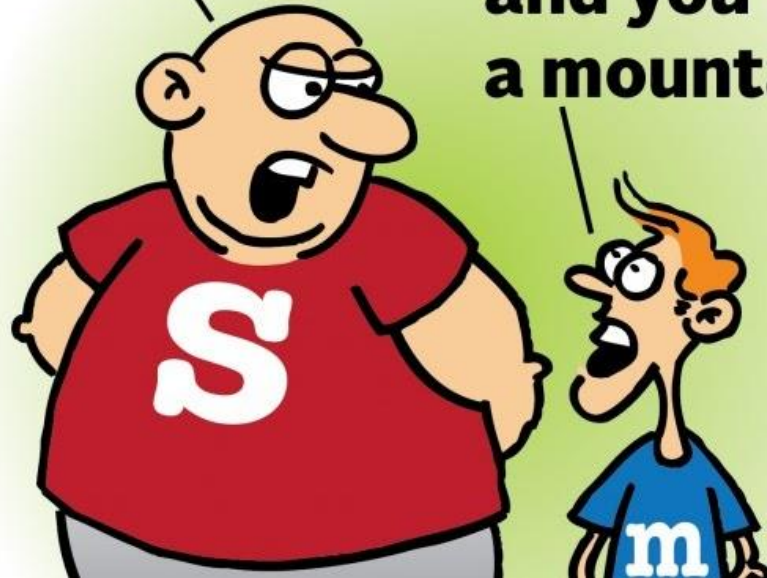
Life is a highway.

Nilupuli's eyes were diamonds.



**You're as
skinny
as a rail**

**and you're
a mountain**



4. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is used in poetry and literature to make exaggerated comparisons.



More Examples.....

The car went faster than the speed of light.

His new car cost a bazillion dollars.

It is raining cats and dogs.

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5. Personification

- To use human characteristics to qualify things, ideas or animals.
 - *“The flowers are dancing beside the lake.”*
 - *“Have you seen my new car? She is a real beauty!”*



6. The Use of Adjectives and Adverbs

- **An adjective** modifies noun/s and pronoun/s in a sentence.
- **An adverb** modifies verb/s in a sentence.

- *He sends meaningless text messages. (adjective)*

- *She wore a beautiful dress. (adjective)*

- *He swims well. (adverb)*

- *He ran quickly. (adverb)*

7. Repetition

- helps to emphasize a point
- makes a speech/text easier to follow

Examples:

I felt happy because I saw the others were happy and because I knew I should feel happy, but I wasn't really happy.

Ranidu was a Catholic because his mother was a Catholic, and Ranidu's mother was a Catholic because his father was a Catholic, and his father was a Catholic because his mother was a Catholic, or had been."

8. Rhetorical Questions

Rhetorical questions are used to make a point rather than to find an answer.

Benefits of rhetorical questions:

- Influence and persuade the audience
- Subtly draw attention and emphasize specific points
- Introduce topics/ideas
- Make the listeners think about certain topics

Examples:

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

- Sonnet 18 by William Shakespeare

9. Tense (active or passive)

- A story can be told in 3 different tenses:

Past

❓ the story is told in the past tense. As the events are over, the order and the importance can be determined by the narrator.

Present

❓ The story is told in the present tense. Sometimes the story is in the past but it is told in the present to create a dramatic effect.

Future

❓ Narration of events that will happen in the future. These narrations can be in the form of predictions or instructions.

Activity

Group activity (padlet) – Use the given prompt to write a narrative. Apply the narrative techniques too

I looked into his eyes, and he smiled....



Thank you

Insert the title of your subtitle Here

