

English 9B

Unit 1: Short Stories

Mastery Assignment: Micro Story

Final Draft Due: Friday March 31st at 11:59pm

Please share your Google Doc with Ms. Kermath to submit your assignment

Brainstorming Check Due: Thursday March 30th | Rough Draft Due: Friday March 31st

About the Assignment

By the end of this unit, we will have read a handful of expert short stories and analyzed them for their story structure, narration and dialogue use, and figurative language. While looking at expert work and analyzing it is a good place to learn about these elements of short stories, one of the best ways to cement this knowledge in is to try it yourself! In this assignment, you will have a chance to explore these elements in your own writing and to see how they work first-hand.

Assignment Details

- You must choose a **tone** and **theme** that you plan on conveying in your story. Please write the tone word and theme you hope to convey at the top of your story.
- Your story must have **all five elements of story structure** (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). This is a micro story, so they'll be short, but they must all be there. You get to decide what the structure looks like, though!
- Every story has a **narrator**, so naturally yours will, too. It is up to you whether you want to add other characters besides the narrator. Make sure you're being thoughtful about how your narrator speaks and what he/she knows because this can affect your tone and theme.
- You must have **one element of figurative language** (simile, metaphor, or symbol). Again, be thoughtful about how you use this as it can affect the tone and theme!
- The topic and plot of your story is completely up to you! Be as creative as possible; I'm excited to read what you come up with.
 - If you're having trouble coming up with ideas, use the brainstorming sheet that was passed out at the beginning of the trimester or come talk to Ms. Kermath.
- Your micro story should be between 250 and 500 words

Scoring Rubric

Writing Process [20]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The writer has thoughtfully completed the Prewriting Assignment by the check-in point. [10]▪ The writer has a rough draft on the due date that shows critical thought and diligent work. The writer uses this draft to engage in peer review. [10]	
Micro Story Writing [20]	
Grade	Criteria
A+ • A • A-	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ All elements of story structure are included (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution).▪ The narrator has a clear role in the story and has been created thoughtfully.▪ One piece of figurative language (simile, metaphor, or symbol) was used accurately in the story.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The author has identified what tone and theme they tried to convey in their micro story and was very successful in conveying them. ▪ Thoughtful organization clearly guides the plot. ▪ Clear prose throughout; very few grammatical and technical errors.
B+ • B • B-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most elements of story structure are included (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). ▪ The narrator has a somewhat clear role in the story and has been created with some thought about the impact of a narrator. ▪ One piece of figurative language (simile, metaphor, or symbol) was used indistinctly in the story. ▪ The author has identified what tone and theme they tried to convey in their micro story and they have been somewhat successful. ▪ Thoughtful organization mostly guides the plot. ▪ Clear prose through most of the story; few grammatical and technical errors.
C+ • C • C-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only one or two elements of story structure are included (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). ▪ The narrator's role in the story is mostly unclear. ▪ One piece of figurative language (simile, metaphor, or symbol) was used inaccurately in the story, or no figurative language was used. ▪ The author has not identified what tone and theme they tried to convey in their micro story, but some attempt seems apparent. ▪ Organization is generally acceptable but could be more precise. ▪ Generally clear prose, but with fairly frequent grammatical and technical errors.
D+ • D • D-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Only one element of story structure is included (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). ▪ The narrator's role in the story is completely unclear. ▪ No figurative language was used. ▪ The author has not identified what tone and theme they tried to convey in their micro story, and no attempt to convey a particular tone or theme is apparent. ▪ Organization is weak; lacks cogence and coherence. ▪ Frequent grammatical and technical errors are a distraction and may interfere with meaning.
E	Off-topic • No submission • Does not meet basic requirements