

Writing own examples of narrative techniques

Below are many of the most-widely recognised and used narrative techniques from literature and scriptwriting. Having explored examples of these in scripts using the previous resource, now choose 5 to have a go at creating your own examples.

Use the table on the next page and write the name of the technique on the left hand side and use the right hand side column to write your own example of that particular technique. If struggling for ideas of general narrative, consider using one of the earlier resources which allows you to randomly generate genres, settings or other items.

Technique
Backstory
Chekhov's gun
Cliffhanger
<i>Deus ex machina</i>
Eucatastrophe
Flashback (or analeptic reference)
Flashforward
Foreshadowing
Frame story, or a story within a story
Framing device
<i>In medias res</i>

Technique
MacGuffin
Narrative hook
Ochi
Plot twist
Poetic justice
Predestination paradox
Quibble
Red herring
Self-fulfilling prophecy
<i>Story within a story</i> (Hypodiegesis)
Ticking clock scenario
Unreliable narrator

Narrative technique	Own example