Writing a Story



How are short stories different from novels?

Short stories are way shorter than novels.

Short stories can have as few as 300 words, while even very short novels usually have a minimum of 50,000 words.



Short stories are structured differently.

Novels have this structure:

Introduction – Conflict – Resolution

Short stories only have space to narrate one section – usually the conflict.

Short stories usually have one main character.

Novels have the time to explore the lives of several characters, whereas short stories usually centre around a single character.





Tips and Tricks

A good story will focus on the important details and will be told in the correct order. Remember these points:

Plot: Make sure that the plot is well-designed. One must have a clear idea of how the plot will move forward beforehand. It should also create an element of suspense for the reader which gets resolved during the climax.

Setting: The setting describes the atmosphere in which the story is placed. It binds the mood of the story, gives it a locale and also sets its time frame.

Character(s): The writer must write his characters efficiently as they are the most important element of the story and it revolves around them. The characters should be lifelike. There can be only one character in a story as well.

Narrative: The narrative of the story can be in first person where the narrator is a part of the story, or there can be a third person narrative too where there is an all-knowing narrator who may or may not be a part of it.



Tips and Tricks

Write the Basic Story in ONE Go.
Pour out the idea in your head as it comes. Just do it.

Find Your Protagonist.
Now look for the main character. Edit the story keeping this character in mind. Describe the character, its thoughts –your readers will experience the story for this character.

Write the Perfect First Line.
A good starting line will capture your readers' interest.

Break the Story Into Proper Paragraphs.
Divide the story incident by incident. Stick to a different paragraph for a single.

Add the Flavours!
Give your characters interesting dialogues. Improve the vocabulary.


Now, use your
imagination to
write a story.