

royal mint museum

COINS & THE SEA

SHORT STORY COMPETITION



how to write a story

Write a story about a ship carrying a cargo including gold coins that sails into a storm and gets into trouble. What happens next? Before you begin writing your story do some research to make sure your story answers the brief. We have provided some information on our website about the topic to get you started <https://www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk/learning/> What do you need to think about before you begin writing?

purpose

We have given you the start of your story, but where do you want your story to go next? How do you want the reader to feel? Maybe you want them to feel happy or excited by your story, or perhaps you want them to feel sad. You could write a spooky story that scares your reader.

Once you have decided what the purpose of your story will be, think how you can achieve this and what words you can use in your writing to set the mood.

setting

Your story needs to start with a ship, but does the story stay on the ship? If so, what kind of ship is it? A sailing ship, or maybe a steam ship? Or does the action happen somewhere else?

You can set your story anywhere you like but it must make sense for your plot and purpose.

character

Who is the star of your story? Is it you or someone you have made up or is it a real person? It could be a historical figure. Maybe there are lots of people in your story. It doesn't have to be a person; it could be an animal like the ship's dog, or a pirate's parrot. Or it could even be a story about an object like a coin!

structure

When you write a story you want there to be a beginning, middle and an end.

THE BEGINNING

this is where you set the scene and introduce your characters.

THE MIDDLE

this is where the action happens.

THE END

this is where you want to conclude your story.



WORKSHEET

USE THE WORK SHEET BELOW TO HELP YOU PLAN SOME IDEAS FOR YOUR STORY.



Where do you want to set your story?

Use this box to write down some ideas for where you would like to set your story.

IS IT IN A BUILDING LIKE A Lighthouse OR A LIFEBOAT STATION?

IS IT ALL SET OUT AT SEA?

COULD IT BE IN A MUSEUM WHERE OBJECTS FROM THE SHIP END UP?

What will happen in your story?

Use this box to write down any ideas you have for what will happen in your story.

DOES THE SHIP SINK OR IS IT SAVED?

IS THE WRECK RECOVERED MANY YEARS LATER?

character

Use this box to write some ideas for the characters in your story

WHAT'S THEIR NAME?

WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

ARE THEY A HUMAN OR AN ANIMAL OR EVEN A MERMAID?



How to enter

For more information on the short story competition, visit our website <https://www.royalmintmuseum.org.uk/learning/>
Or email us at storycompetition@royalmintmuseum.org.uk