

L.O. I can plan to write a narrative using a range of devices.

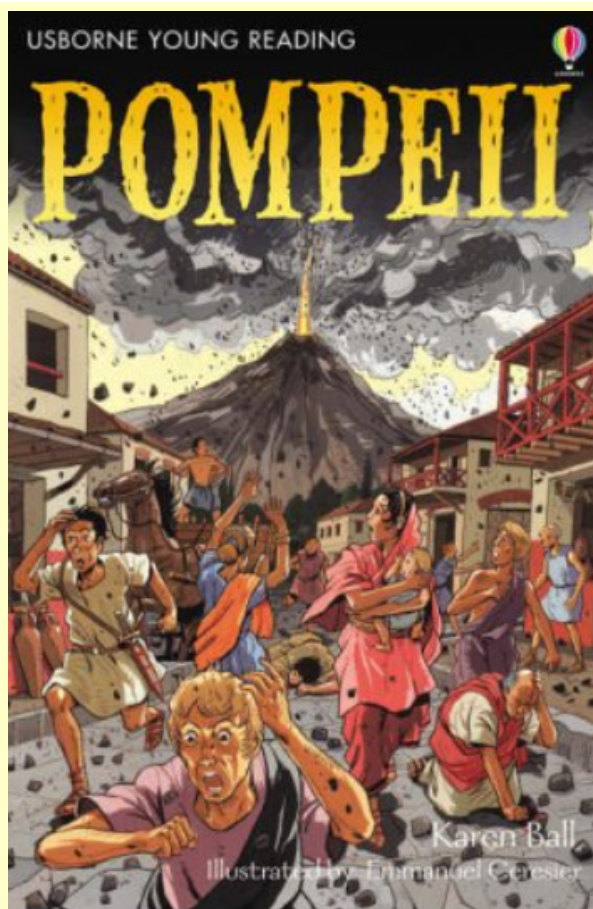
### Handwriting Starter

*They'd passed the graveyard on the edge of the village by the light of a full moon, and the hoot of an owl signalled their passage. They spent the next few hours trudging through the gloom of the forest on their way back to Nottingham. Mist hung about the ground at knee height, giving the forest an ethereal feel. Robin's friend, Will, turned to him and confessed quietly he wasn't happy about the uncomfortable silence which enveloped the woods. Usually, even at such an early hour, the woods were filled with noises, but tonight all was deathly silent.*



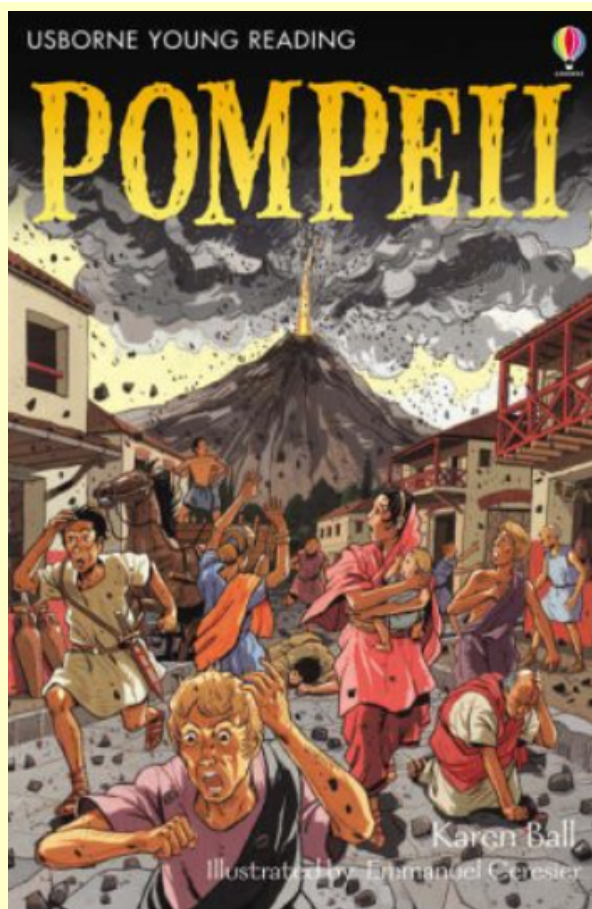
Today you are going to plan your own narrative about a volcanic eruption. You need to think about where your narrative is set, what happens in the build-up to the eruption, who is involved, and much more!





Let's recap:

- › What has happened so far?
- › What warning signs have there been that the volcano will erupt?
- › Why didn't the citizens believe the man?



Let's read the rest of the story...

### What is the purpose of a narrative?

The purpose of narratives  
is to tell a story.

They can teach the reader a moral  
or a lesson.

They can be both informative and entertaining.  
Narratives can be written in many forms, for  
example: myths, fairy tales, fables, parables,  
science fictions, adventure, historical, romance,  
mystery, horror, humorous and  
fantasy stories.



Structure of a narrative

| Structure             | Purpose   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Opening               | A short introduction about the main characters and settings. Who, what, when, where, why?   |
| Build-Up              | Well structured, and sequenced events which tell the reader a story, and reveal more about the information presented in the orientation.                    |
| Dilemma/Problem       | This is embedded into the series of events. It is where a potential problem occurs and the whole narrative is based around this, and how it will be solved. |
| Resolution and Ending | The complication is resolved and the narrative ends.  |

We are going to complete a story mountain for our narrative. We will do this section by section and discuss what each section is as we get to it.



## Opening...

The main purpose of your opening is to 'hook' the readers' interest and make them want to read on. There are many ways to do this, but you may try:

**Action:** Get straight to the point; begin your narrative in the heat of battle.  
'Charging at the old, abandoned door of the house, he used all his strength to force it open.'

**Dialogue:** Slightly less dramatic than full-blown action, but still gets into the story quickly.  
"How on earth could that have possibly happened!" complained Andrew.'

**Character:** Immediately give the readers someone to connect with.  
'Her curls of golden hair fell across her face, catching the light from the glistening moon.'

**Setting:** Immediately give the readers somewhere to imagine.  
'The stale smell lingered in the air. The smell of rotting wood could be sensed from towns away. It had not been entered for years.'



If your opening raises questions, it will keep the reader interested.

Action: Get straight to the point; begin your narrative in the heat of battle.

'Charging at the old, abandoned door of the house, he used all his strength to force it open.'

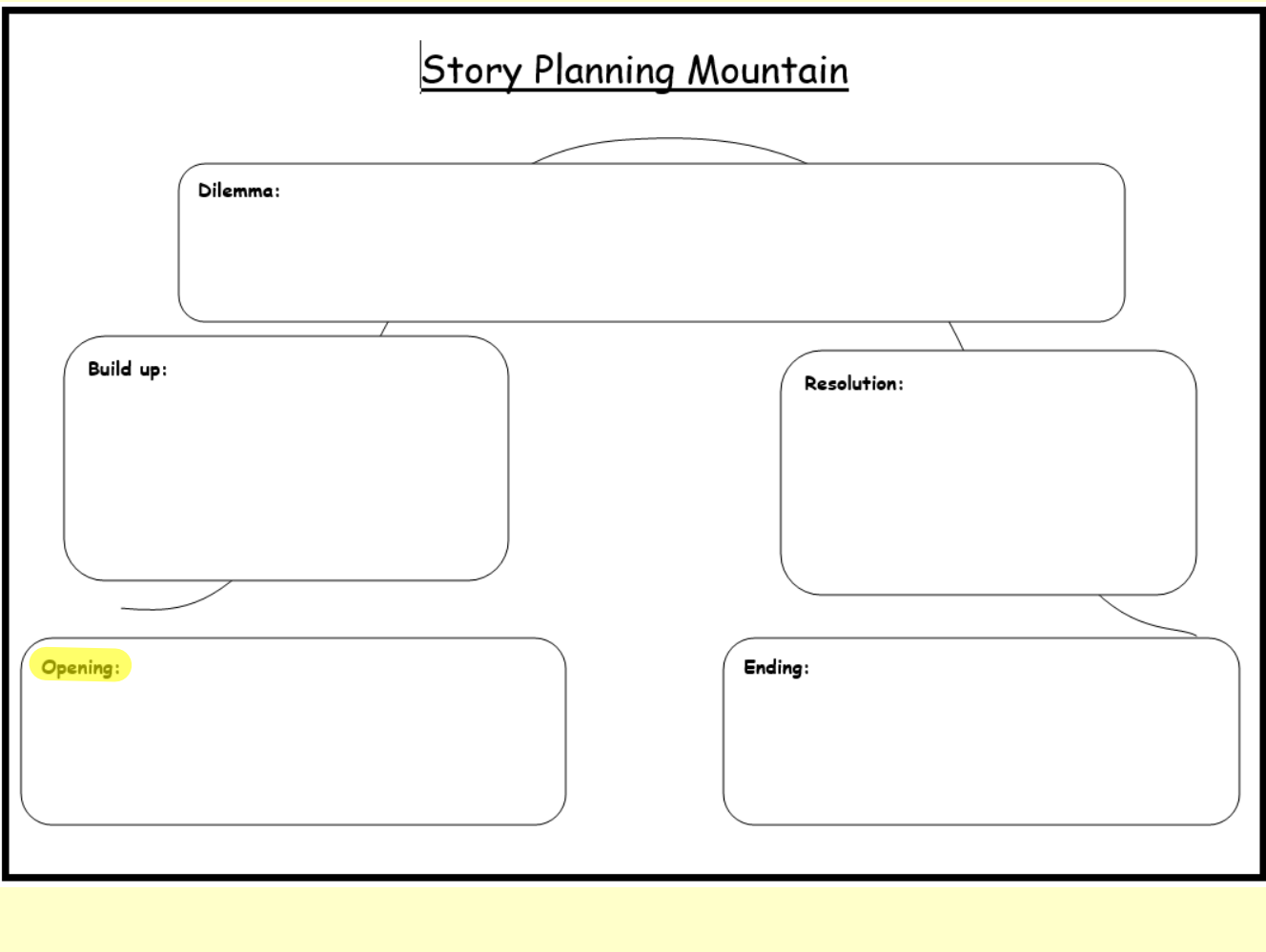
**What's behind the door? Is he running away from something? Does he want to get in or out?**

Dialogue: Slightly less dramatic than full-blown action, but still gets into the story quickly.

"How on earth could that have possibly happened!"  
complained Andrew.'

**What has happened? Who is Andrew?**

Think about Pompeii..what questions does their opening raise?



Story Planning Mountain

Dilemma:

Build up:

- Develop suspense, action, fantasy using interesting adjectives, similes and metaphors
- Let the reader get to know the characters.
- Try and make the reader ask questions

Resolution:

Opening:

Ending:

## The Crisis/Dilemma/Problem...

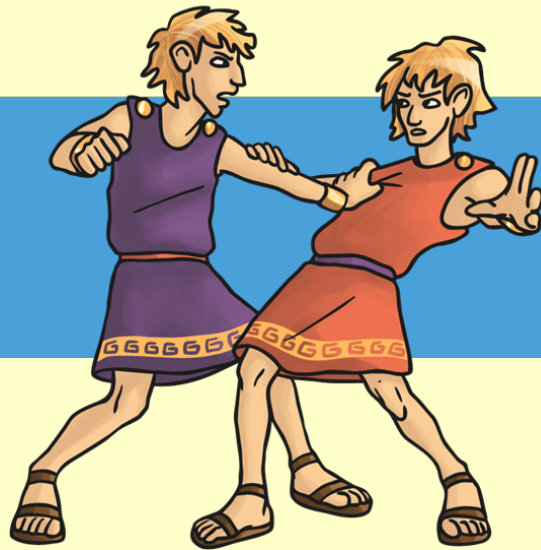
In almost every story you read, there will be a crisis or problem.

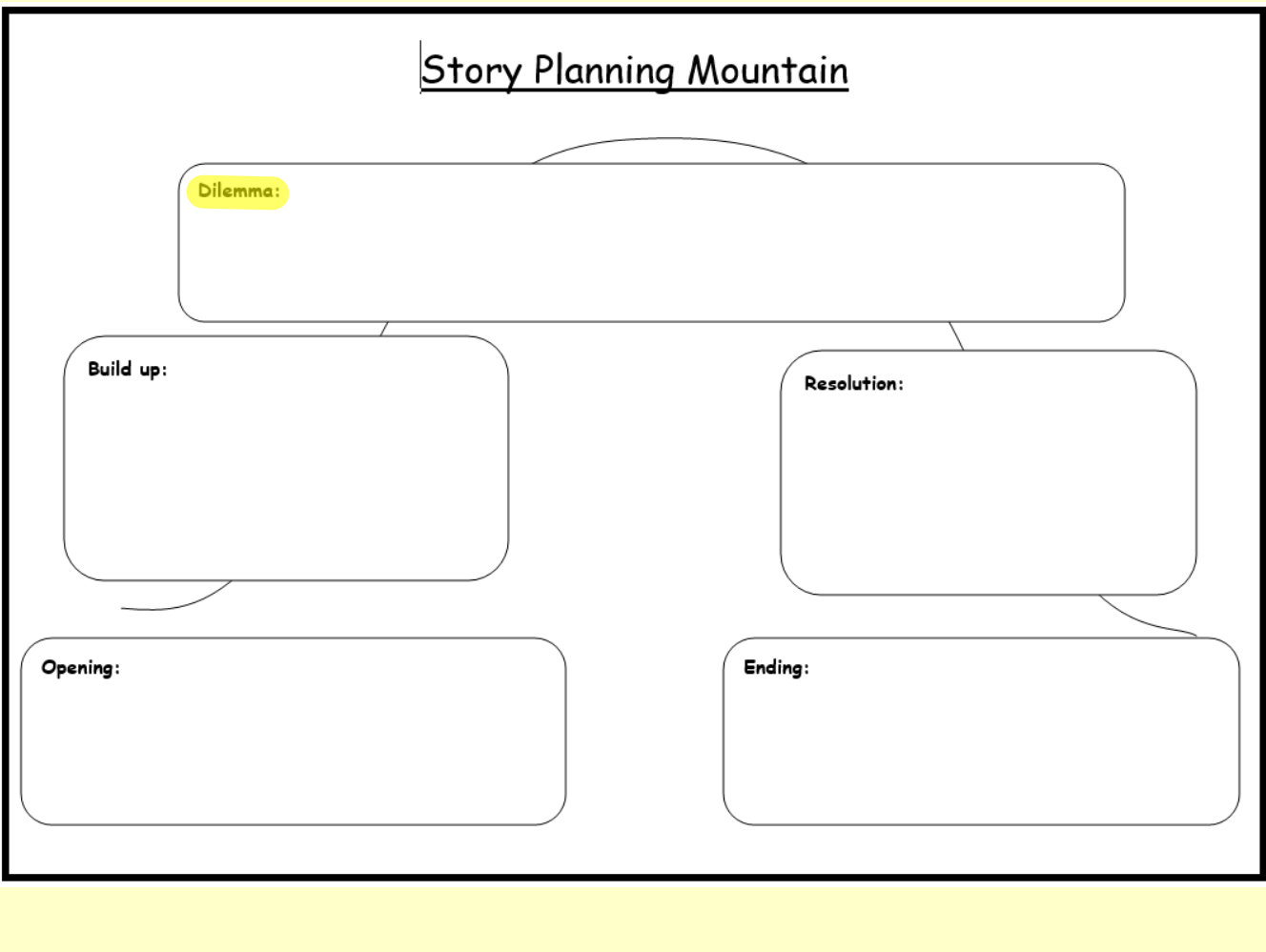
Think of five stories that you have read (or films you have seen) and identify what the problem was. Discuss these with your partner.

Can you identify any other common themes in terms of structure?

### **Pause for Thought**

Why do you think stories need a crisis?  
What would happen if everything just went well?





Story Planning Mountain

Dilemma:

Build up:

Resolution:

- How is the problem solved?
- Do people manage to escape? How?
- Is there a hero?
- What is left of the village/city?

Opening:

Ending:

Story Planning Mountain

Dilemma:

Build up:

Resolution:

Opening:

Ending: