Watch The Prodigal Son

What did you think of the story?
What does it teach us?
What is a moral?
Before we start our story, we need to make sure we have the correct tools to set the scene. One way of starting the story is with dialogue.

Can we write speech in more than one way?
**Can you write the direct or reported speech?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct speech</th>
<th>Reported speech</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“What’s the matter?” asked Mr Smith.</td>
<td>Mr Smith wanted to know what the matter was.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The doctor asked him how he felt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>“I can’t wait to go to the theme park!”</td>
<td>She then told him that she wanted him to away.</td>
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<tr>
<td>exclaimed Ruth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>“I’d love to come over,” said Anthony.</td>
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With a family member, role play the start of the story. Focus on the part where the father is telling his sons that he will leave them his farm. Write down some of the things you say as both direct and reported speech.
LO: To use speech, action and description to write the opening of a story

Use what you have to start writing the story. Remember that you need to include the following:

- Speech (both reported and direct)
- Action (what are the characters doing? Facial expressions, body language)
- Description (where are they sitting? What does it look like?)

“I have something I need to tell you boys,” said the old man as he sat down. His sons sat down, one either side of him, with concerned looks etched on their faces.

“Yes father, what is it?” questioned the eldest of the two men, “nothing serious I hope?” The old man took a deep breath, his voice barely visible in the dimly lit room, and explained that he would divide his money and land between his two sons when he reached the end of his life. Both sons sat in silence; the low ceiling of the room seeming to close in on them, the earth walls seeming dauntless than a moment before.
“I have something I need to tell you boys,” said the old man as he sat down. His sons sat down, one either side of him, with concerned looks etched on their faces.

“Yes father, what is it?” questioned the eldest of the two men, “nothing serious I hope?” The old man took a deep breath, his face barely visible in the dimly lit room, and explained that he would divide his money and land between his two sons when he reached the end of his life. Both sons sat in silence; the low ceiling of the room seeming to close in on them, the earth walls seeming darker than a moment before.
Using descriptive language to show and not tell

He ran after them. VS

His heart was pounding as fast as his feet. He picked up speed, determined to catch up with the others. Gulping in air, filling his lungs, he pushed himself as hard as he could.
Have a go with a family member.

One of you mimes an action, the other writes it down.

Can you show and not tell?
Writing a dream sequence

Some writing techniques can show how a character feels on the inside. These techniques can include flashbacks, daydreams and dream sequences.

When we write a dream sequence, we show instead of tell.
es.

Bring them to their room, to bed, after a long day.

He shuffled towards his room; his mind racing with what he had just heard. He slowly lowered himself into bed, making sure he blew out the candle on his night stand, and pulled the covers up to his neck.

When the characters’ eyes are closed, let the sounds of the world drift in. Be specific and precise.

He closed his eyes. As he lay there, he could hear his father cleaning dishes in the kitchen. The rustle of the corn in the fields drifted through the open window.

Ease into the dream.

Exhausted, he started to drift from the waking world. His mind slowly going blank, he fell into a deep sleep.

Move from image to image. End on one that best seems to fit the mood of that day.

He could see himself surrounded with pots of money. He was at a lavish party; the centre of attention...
Clause structures
Try and include a range of clauses in your writing.
After he woke up, he looked around for his clothes.

Which is the main clause? Which is the subordinate clause?

He walked to his father and explained that he had been thinking about what had been said the previous night.

Using a connective (even a simple one) means we can create complex sentences.
Have a go. Can you make the sentences you write about our story?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To add information:</th>
<th>To show cause and effect:</th>
<th>To emphasise:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>add, also, too, as well as, moreover, furthermore</td>
<td>because, so, thus, therefore, consequently, as a result of</td>
<td>especially, notably, above all, significantly in particular,</td>
</tr>
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<th>To compare:</th>
<th>To contrast:</th>
<th>To illustrate:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>like, equally, similarly, in the same way, likewise</td>
<td>whereas, instead of, unlike, by contrast, alternatively, conversely, on the other hand</td>
<td>for example, such as, as shown by, for instance, in the case of</td>
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<th>To qualify:</th>
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<td>however, yet, unless, although, if, except, as long as, apart from</td>
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He needed that money! Greed had taken over him, creeping down his heart and brain. Pulling on his clothes, he wildly waved his sandals and ran zipping like a cheetah, blowing through his thick, bushy hair. Moments later, she was there, in front of his father. The feeling of nervousness yanked his reins. But then, out of the blue, he was lost in his imaginary world of year. All of a sudden this hearing was recovered, after hearing a piercing buzzer to the sound of his father sounding on a succulent grape left from his fruit basket. He then stepped forwards, his knees knocking
Using reported speech to move a story forward quickly

We need to include the conversation between the father and son. This is the part where the son asks for the money his father had promised him in his will.

Instead of writing out the entire conversation, we are going to use reported speech to move the story on quickly.

This is a great place to use some complex sentences.
He checked that his older brother wasn’t around. He approached his father.

*He checked that his older brother wasn’t around then approached his father.*

It was really hard conversation to start. He felt like he was abandoning his family.

*It was really hard conversation to start because he felt like he was abandoning his family.*

He thought that his father looked upset. He couldn’t be sure.

*He thought that his father looked upset but he couldn’t be sure.*
Think about the part of the story when the younger son leaves home.

This is a great place to include adverbs, prepositional phrases and expanded noun phrases.

Don’t forget to use a range of punctuation . , ' " " ; . ? !

Walking towards the city, he stared at the hundreds of buildings and, not knowing what to do first, picked a vibrant green coloured restaurant to enter.
Cheat sheet

He left the farm.

He **quickly** left the farm.

As soon as he was given the money, **he quickly left the farm.**

As soon as he was given the **huge sum of money**, **he quickly left the old, dusty farm.**
He collected his belongings, stuffed the **heavy** sack of coins at the bottom of his bag and headed out the door. He couldn’t believe his luck. As he reached the crest of the hill, he turned and took a final look at the place where he had spent his entire life. He could see his father, his shoulders hunched, still watching him. A pang of guilt seemed to stab him in his stomach; he knew that he was abandoning his family. As he stood there, his thoughts turned to the money and the adventures it would afford him. Excited, optimistic and ready, he adjusted his pack and headed for the city.
We are now going to write up to the point where he runs out of money.

Success criteria:

• I have included an adverb
• I have used a prepositional phrase
• I have expanded my nouns
• I have written in past tense
• I have used third person
Adding a semicolon

This is a way of adding detail to your description and joining sentences without using a connective.

He couldn’t take it any more; he was starving and needed to do something quickly.

He walked away from the city; he knew that he had to return home.

A semi-colon can sometimes be used to replace a full stop. It links two complete sentences and turns them into one.
Time to finish our story.

It’s over to you now. Can you use the techniques we've learnt to write a fantastic ending?

Remember the key events at the end of the story.
- The son returns home
- His father runs to meet him
- He is full of regret and his father is full of forgiveness
- It ends with a big party, celebrating his return.

Challenge: Include a semicolon
Extension

What is the moral of the story?

If you have finished, write a short paragraph explaining what the story means.

*This story was a parable from the Bible. It tells us that...*
LF 4 Forgiveness is an essential part of unconditional love.

Scripture
- Luke 15: 11-32 The Prodigal Son
- Matthew 18:22 70 X 7

Sacrament
- Reconciliation

Christian Beliefs
- God loves us unconditionally as He is our Father. His love will have no end.

Prayers/Tradition
- Our Father
- Act of Contrition
- Confiteor

Experiences, feelings and ideas
- Why should we forgive?
- Is it easy to forgive?
- When is it difficult?
- Should we forgive people over and over again?

Act/Images/Artefacts
- Murillo Bartolome - The return of the Prodigal Son

Hymns
- Freely Freely
- Come back to me
- In Bread we bring you Lord

Christian Life; Beliefs and Values
- Forgiveness
- Repentance
- Penance