

Step 2

Components of your story

Directions

Find the components of your great story.

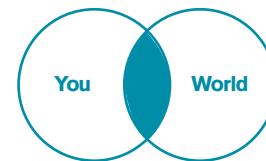
- 1 Select 4-5 components that seem particularly suited to the story you need to tell.
- 2 Write in your own details in the blank space on the cards provided—short sentences or bullet points will do.
- 3 When you've filled in your 4-5 cards, cut them out and set them aside. You're going to need them later.



“Once upon a time...”

Setting the scene can help the audience connect to the story as if they were there when it happened.

What's the scene for your story?



A world view

Many great stories have perspective—an angle or lens that shapes the telling of the story, and what people take away from it.



Great characters

Heroes. Villains. Supporting characters. Who or what you choose—and what their characteristics and traits are—is critical to the action and meaning of your story..



Challenging situations

We learn a lot about people through their toughest moments—their near-death experiences, moments of lapsed judgement, and foibles.





Conflict

Challenging situations and moments of change naturally lead to conflict—between people, values, the past versus the future, big bets versus the status quo.



Drama

A heightened sense of drama keeps the audience riveted to the story.

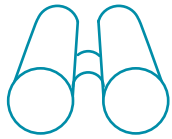
What's the drama in your story?



Lessons learned

Everyone has learned lessons through experiences that are worthy of sharing.

What lessons are learned in, or from, your story?



New possibility

When your story is about what might be possible in the future—not just what has happened in the past—a story might include a future view.



“Happily ever after...”

Sometimes the job of a story is to leave the audience with a sense of resolution and wellbeing.

What's the warm, fuzzy feeling we get from your story?

