

Story Telling Structure

I. Introduction:

A) Start with a line that hooks the audience by sharing a common belief or truth we all know (but which is not the full truth as you now know it):

- *They say ...*
- *Most of you know about ...*
- *We are told that*
- *Have you ever heard of...*
- *We are raised to think that...*
- *When I was (younger), I thought...*

B) Expand on that idea to explain how that “truth” has been passed down to you and others:

- *History books tell us...*
- *(Parents/ teachers/ social media/ the media) tell us...*
- *_____ once told me that _____.....*

C) Explain what effect this “truth” has had on you, your family, your community, or your world:

- *This means (I, we, some people) grow up believing...*
- *The result of this (belief, lesson, story, stereotype) is that ...*
- *Because we learned this, ...*
- *Believing this has meant that...*

D) Transition to the “TRUTH” that you will be sharing through your research/ story.

- *But we'd like to tell you a story that (shows, proves, illustrates) _(THEME OR LESSON THIS STORY WILL SHOW) _____.*
- *But if you knew the story of _____, you would understand that _(The TRUTH that this story will show)_____.*

The introduction should be at least 30 seconds and can be as long as 2 minutes. Use this time to really pull your audience in to the importance of the issues, topics, or historical events that you are going to talk about.

II. Telling the story

- A. Introduce the WHO-WHAT-WHERE-WHEN of the story you researched (EXPOSITION)
- B. Explain the important details of the story (RISING ACTION)
- C. Explain the critical moment, event, or action that the story leads up to (CLIMAX)
- D. Explain how the climax changed things (FALLING ACTION)
- E. Explain why it's important to share this story - what can we learn from it? (DENOUMENT)

At some point in the telling of your story, you will introduce and perform your dramatic piece.

You and your group will create AT LEAST ONE and AT MOST THREE scenes or monologues that you will introduce and perform as a part of the story-telling. (The parts of the story that are not told in the scenes will be told using narration, and digital tools (slideshows

You will use language such as this to transition into your performance piece:

(possible intro for EXPOSITION):

We'd like to introduce you to _____ by sharing a dramatized scene of the moment when _____.

(possible intro for RISING ACTION):

One of the important moments in the (story, life, events) of _____ is when _____ . To show you this, we created a scene that shows _____

(possible intro for CLIMAX):

The (pivotal/ most important/ critical) moment in this story is when _____ . We created a scene that we think illustrates/ captures/ represents the importance of that moment.

(possible intro for FALLING ACTION:)

The result of (what happened in the climax) was _____ We created a scene that shows _____.

(possible intro for DENOUMENT:)

The story of _____ (shows us/ demonstrates/ reminds us/ teaches us) _____ . To show you this, we created a scene which shows _____.

Write the script to introduce your dramatic piece(s): (This comes after the introduction you scripted above)

Now do the copying and pasting needed to put the whole script together here: