

Myth or legend

Use a traditional narrative to explain origins or values

COMMON FORMS

Creation story, local legend, cultural narrative

TEXT SHAPE

World or time setting → extraordinary event → challenge → consequence or explanation

FEATURES AND LANGUAGE

Past forms; repeated patterns; vivid verbs; formulaic openings; symbolic language

PLAN AND TEACH IT

Study how repetition and transformation build meaning. Handle cultural sources with care and context.

tone and register

Voice may be ceremonial or story-like; preserve the source's cultural context.

LINKED CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Try: Interview a Character · Speak from a Picture · Answer in Three Parts

A MODEL TO NOTICE

Bring a short example. Ask who it is for, what it is trying to do and which feature helps it work. Compare it with a less effective draft.

QUICK CHECKLIST

- ☐ The opening makes the purpose clear: Use a traditional narrative to explain origins or values.
- ☐ Each part has a clear place and moves the reader towards the purpose.
- ☐ The language features, tone and level of formality fit the reader and situation.

A QUICK CLASSROOM ROUTINE

- 1 NOTICE** Read a model for purpose, shape and audience.
- 2 REHEARSE** Practise a useful sentence or language feature aloud.
- 3 WRITE** Plan, draft and use the guide as a checklist.
- 4 REVIEW** Ask a partner whether the text does its job; revise one feature.
Keep the subject thinking ambitious. Make the language visible, practise it, then fade the support.