

Story Endings

How to end?

- In the plotting stage, what is the ending called?
- Your story should remain consistent!
Remember the story line.

The Cliff Hanger...

- where we have to **wait until the final moment** until we know. For instance, the spy who manages to stop the bomb two seconds before it explodes.

The Twist...

- where we are fairly sure about something, but in the **final part everything changes**. For example, we then learn that this is a fake bomb, and the real one is hidden somewhere else and will explode in five minutes.

The Unfinished Ending...

- where the story stops, but **we aren't sure what has actually happened at the end.** For instance, the bomb is defused and everyone is safe. But then an army commander reports the theft of another bomb... only this time twice as powerful.

Unhappy, Sad Ending...

- tend to be more interesting than happy ones and full of **emotive impact** – so long as it is not overdone!

Narrator addresses the reader directly...

- eg. giving them a piece of **advice** arising from your story, making them feel included. Is there a moral you want to pass on?

Introduce a mystery...

- eg. something that is **unresolved** so the reader has something to think about when they have finished reading.

1. Kate has been hiding from a zombie apocalypse.

- Now, Kate had been in the hideaway for fourteen days. She was scared and felt lonely. The outside world sounded cold and empty from within the warehouse.

She wondered how many of the horrid creatures lingered outside smelling out the remains of human blood.

Stepping into the light, her eye dilated. She looked around. She looked down. She could not believe it. She was one of them.

2.

- Kate ran until her feet could not carry her any more. She ached and thought back to a happier time, the last time she had seen her brother, they had talked over coffee and enjoyed each others' company.

The apocalypse had taken a great toll on her and her body no longer felt human. She decided enough was enough and threw open the steel door.

CRASH. Without fail Kate ran. It was only a matter of time.

3.

- The creature grasped its gnarling claws at her arm. She was tired of fighting.

Her body wanted her to stop. Her mind urged, *go on, just a little further, Kate.*

She ran.

The pain was incredible. The pursuit felt infinite.

She turned a corner and she saw him. He was infected, too.

Kate stumbled.

WHICH?

- What is your favourite kind of ending?
- Why?
- You always need to be thinking about impacting the reader!

DON'T...

- Try to wrap up your story too quickly
- Read it through check it all makes sense
- Avoid the 'trick ending' : "He woke up and it was all a dream."