

7 Elements of Storytelling

Based on Aristotle's '7 Elements of Drama' we've put together some key points to help you in thinking about your story. It's important to remember these elements are for guidance, not set in stone.

Plot

This is the story path. How do you get from A to B?

Theme

The theme is your 'central argument'. What's the moral of the story? Is it about true love? Good versus evil? Finding freedom?

Character

These are the people who drive the plot. The audience should identify with them.

Dialogue

The way the character communicates the messages of the story.

Different ways of using speech connect in different ways to different types of audiences.

Visuals

This deals with the aesthetics of the story. The look. The colour scheme. The setting. The costumes.

Soundtrack

Think of the imortance of music in a film like 'Jaws'. What about soundscape where there is no music? Clear and intelligible audio trumps beautiful imagery every time.

(If your story is text then you will need to create the visuals and soundtrack in the audiences imagination by what you write)

Spectacle

What is the ingredient that will make this story memorable? Something unexpected? A plot twist? A deep insight? What will be thing that you want audiences to take away from it?