



20. Story Mountain

A story mountain is used to plan a story.



- **Opening**
Introduce the main characters and describe the setting. What will your opening sentence be?
- **Build up**
What things happen? What clues are there? What is said? How do you build up the excitement?
- **Problem**
Things might go wrong! Is there a mystery, or do terrible things happen? Are there any differences?
- **Resolution**
How are things going to be sorted out? Problems have to be solved, and people made happy again.
- **Ending**
Does the story end happily ever after? What have the people learnt? Have the characters changed?

Helpful hints



Try to use interesting sentence starters for each stage of your story.

Use connectives in the middle of sentences.

Check your story! Have you used the correct punctuation?

Remember to start a new line when someone new speaks.

Let's Exercise



A. Read the story

An old woman baked some laddoos for members of her family and an extra one for a hungry passerby. She kept the extra laddoo on her door step. Every day, a cripple came and took away the laddoo.

Instead of being thankful for the laddoo, he muttered the following words as he went his way, "The evil you do remains with you. The good you do, comes back to you!" This went on, day after day. Every day, the cripple came, picked up the laddoo and uttered the words, "The evil you do, remains with you. The good you do, comes back to you!" The old woman



was very annoyed. "Not a word of thanks," she muttered to herself, "Everyday this cripple sings the same song! What does he mean?" One day, feeling disgusted, she decided to do away with him. "I shall get rid of this cripple," she said. And what did she do? She added poison to the laddoo she had prepared for him!

As she was about to keep it on her door step, her hands trembled.

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"What is this I am doing?" she said. Immediately, she threw the laddoo into the fire, prepared another one and kept it on her door step. As usual, the cripple came, picked up the laddoo and repeated the words: "The evil you do, remains with you The good you do, comes back to you!"

The cripple went his way. He was ignorant of the disturbance in the woman's mind. Every day, as the woman placed the laddoo on her door step, she prayed for her son who had gone to a far off place to seek his fortune. She had not heard from him for a long time. She prayed for his safe return.

That evening, there was a knock on the door. When she opened it, she was surprised to see her son. He had grown extremely thin. His clothes were tattered and torn. He was hungry, starved and weak. When he saw his mother, he said, "Mother, it's a miracle I'm here. While I was a short distance away, I was so hungry that I collapsed. I would have died, but just then an old cripple passed by. I begged him for some food, and he was kind enough to give me a laddoo. He gave it to me and spoke kindly, "Son, this is what I eat everyday. Today, I shall give it to you, for I can see your need is greater than mine!"

When his mother heard those words, she turned pale and trembled. She remembered the poisoned laddoo that she had made that morning. Had she not put it in the fire, it would have been eaten by her own son, and he would have lost his life! Never again would she have seen him!

It was then that she realized the importance of the words: "The evil you do remains with you. The good you do, comes back to you!" Do good and do not ever stop doing good, even if it is not appreciated at that time.