

Hello Betty,

I know you are asking me about what a good short story is and where to get ideas to write a short story. I may draw upon the experience I have gained from the study of “Learning English through Short Stories.”

What is a good short story and where can we get ideas to write a short story? First, like all stories, there needs to be a conflict set up right at the beginning. Then there is the development of the story with the climax as the high drama of the whole story and then the resolution, which is the ending. Also, I think the readers prefer a happy ending. Happy ending can make readers feel unforgettable. Good short stories can capture readers’ attention. How can we develop the story with the climax as the high drama of the whole story? You can think of some interesting things or people in your daily life and put them in the story. You can create some funny characters in the story that make readers think the characters are unforgettable. Good short stories need effective dialogues; you may seriously think about this element and put it in your short story. All these are basic writing skills for short stories.

As a beginner, I suggest that you can get ideas from your familiar surroundings. I think your familiar surroundings may mean your friends, your family or interesting things in your life. I suggest you can take the English drama as a reference for the short story. I know you really like drama. You can use English drama to strengthen your short stories to make more interesting.

My English teacher once summed up – the best short stories have a fascinating plot, effective dialogues, and unforgettable characters and twist ending. Then, you need to develop the short story with the climax as the high drama of the whole story and then the resolution. So, you must remember those points, and you can write a good short story. Good luck!

Cheers,

Helen