



## PLOT LINES

Many stories follow similar plots; it's just the details that are different from story to story. When choosing a topic for your story, consider one of these common plot lines.

**Arrival:** Someone or something new has come into the picture, and that arrival has changed things.

**Challenge:** The protagonist is facing a difficult challenge. In the story, we watch as the person tries to overcome that challenge.

**Change:** Life was going along normally, then one thing changed. How will life be different now?

**Decision:** The protagonist has to make a decision about something. What will he or she decide?

**Gathering:** A group of people has come together for some reason, then something happens as a result of their being together.

**Mistake:** The protagonist has made a mistake and has to deal with the consequences.

**Project:** The protagonist has a project to complete; will he or she get it done? Will it turn out as expected?

**Solution:** The protagonist has come up with a solution to a problem. The question is, will it work?

**Trauma:** Something bad has happened—it could be something big or something minor. How are things different for the protagonist after this happens?

**Trip:** The protagonist goes on a trip somewhere. It might be someplace close or very far away. Something happens on that trip that changes the protagonist.