**Writing Stories - PRAK 1 Winter 2023  
Introduction and tips** (Writing stories)  
• ANSWER THE QUESTION  
• PLAN your story.  
• REVISE your story to correct mistakes.  
• Give your story a title.  
• Make sure you have at least 4 paragraphs.  
• Paragraph 1 – background information.  
• Paragraphs 2 and 3 the main part of the story.  
• Paragraph 4 – EITHER the climax or key moment of the story OR what  
happened after the climax.  
• Don't change the words you are given at all.  
• Read the words you are given carefully. Sometimes you can choose  
whether to start or finish with the words. At other times you have no choice.  
• Use past continuous for background information.  
For example – *It was raining heavily as we left the house….*

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| • | Use past perfect before the main events of the story. *but Anne had kindly lent me her umbrella.* |

• Use simple past for the main events. *There wasn't a single person on the street.*• Try to include some direct speech.

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| • | You can use contraction (haven't, couldn't etc). But a story should not be as informal as an email to a friend, for example. |

**Useful phrases** (Writing stories)  
**Time phrases:**• *It all began*• *Shortly afterwards*• *Meanwhile*• *Not long afterwards*• *Some time later*• *Later that day*• *A little later*• *Finally*• *In the end*• *Eventually***Phrases for dramatic effect:**• *Suddenly*• *All of a sudden*• *Without warning*• *Out of the blue*  
• *Just at that moment*• *Quite unexpectedly*• *As if from nowhere***Direct speech:**• *“…..”, said Fred*• *“…..”, shouted Fred*• *“…..”, screamed Fred*• *“…..”, whispered Fred*• *“…..”, announced Fred.*• *”…..”, thought Fred*• *“…..”, cried Fred*• *“…..”, promised Fred***Concluding stories:**• *When it was all over*• *Looking back now*• *In retrospect*• *In the end*• *After all that had happened*

**Writing stories – This is an example, your sentence will be given to you on the 15th/16th November 2023.**

1. Your teacher has asked you to write a story for a student magazine.  
The story must **begin** with the following words.

***Simon opened the door and knew immediately he had made a mistake.***

Write your **story in approximately 300 words for** in an appropriate style.