




COM-33

Intervention Activities Guide (IAG)
Blackline Masters



Comprehension | Story Elements

COM-33 Story Pyramid

Blackline Master available
www.tpri.org 

Students describe story elements using a pyramid that requires increasingly long answers.

MATERIALS: Books, story pyramids, pencils

- 1 Create a story pyramid and model how to use it with a text familiar to the entire class. Students follow the steps by selecting words from the text that describe the main character, setting, problem and events.
- 2 Working independently or in pairs, students practice using a story pyramid with another familiar text.
- 3 Once they understand how to use a story pyramid, students can complete them regularly for texts read independently.

EXAMPLE:

Story Pyramid

1. _____
Main character's name.

2. _____
Describe the main character in two words.

3. _____
Describe the setting in three words.

4. _____
Describe the main problem in four words.

5. _____
Describe one event in five words.

6. _____
Describe a second event in six words.

7. _____
Describe a third event in seven words.

8. _____
Describe how the problem was solved in eight words.

EXTENSION: Story pyramids can be created with fewer or more events, and with more lines for writing about characters or setting.



PREPARATION OF MATERIALS: Print the Story Pyramid on page 2. Provide each student with text and a Story Pyramid organizer. Follow the activity directions.

Story Pyramid

1. _____
Main character's name.

2. _____
Describe the character in two words.

3. _____
Describe the setting in three words.

4. _____
Describe the main problem in four words.

5. _____
Describe one event in five words.

6. _____
Describe a second event in six words.

7. _____
Describe a third event in six words.

8. _____
Describe how the problem was solved in eight words.