

Plot Line

Every story has a plot line. Before beginning your story, you should summarize or outline your plot. You don't need to include everything, just the major events. That way you'll know where your story is going. For an example, here's a summary of "Little Red Riding Hood":



- Beginning:** Red and her mother live in a house on the edge of the woods. Red's grandmother is sick.
- First scene:** Red's mother packs up some food and asks Red to take it to her grandmother who lives in the woods. She warns Red not to speak to anyone.
- Because of this:** Red goes through the woods and meets the Big Bad Wolf.
- And then:** Red forgets what her mother said and talks to the BBW.
- Because of this:** BBW learns where Red is going and gets there first.
- And then:** BBW tricks the grandmother and eats her.
- And then:** BBW tricks Red and nearly eats her, but she starts to scream.
- Because of this:** The woodcutter hears, kills the wolf, and saves Red and her grandmother.

Notice that each action or scene leads to the next. Sometimes something in one scene directly causes another. For example, Red is walking through the woods because her mother told her to. Sometimes one scene doesn't cause another, but still leads to it (for example, the wolf gets to the grandmother's and the next thing he does is trick and eat her).

Your turn! Use as few or as many steps as you need to get through your story. After "First scene" start each with either "Because of this" or "And then."

Beginning: _____

First scene: _____

Handwriting practice sheet with 12 rows of lines. Each row consists of a solid top line, a dashed midline, and a solid bottom line. The dashed midline is positioned approximately one-third of the way down from the top line.

**This sheet corresponds with Lightning Literature & Composition
Grade 4, Week 1, Day 4**