



Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Intermediate Level: Warm-up Activity



Story Starters
15 minutes

Objective/Goal:

This warm-up activity gives participants the opportunity to share stories about their home countries.

Materials:

Participants need:

- none

Facilitator needs:

- whiteboard
- whiteboard markers
- *Optional: computer(with internet access to display your story if needed)
- projector
- screen
- Story Sample(* **your choice**: appropriate subject matter)
- Optional: Timer

Procedure: 15 minutes

Before the activity:

- 1) **Write** the story starter on the whiteboard-Ex. "Once upon a time...".
- 2) Have the class **seated** in a round circle formation.

Activity Instructions:

- 3) **Explain** to the participants that they will take turns telling a story with the story starter. Each participant has 2 minutes to **tell** a tale. The next participant continues the story. The last participant will end the story.
- 4) **Begin** by reading a short story for the participants to listen.
- 5) **Go over** the elements of a story.
- 6) **Brainstorm what makes a good story:**



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Beginning
Middle
End
Characters
Problem

7) **Demonstrate** the activity.

Extension Activities:

**Extension activities are alternative or extra activities that can be done to supplement the main activity, if there is extra time. They can also be done in the next class as a review of previous vocabulary or conversation.*

- A.** A timer could be used to time each participant. Each of the participants' contribution for 3 minutes or more long.
- B.** Story starter can include prompts of story details:
- characters(Ex. An old man)
 - names of characters(Ex. Ned and Jen)
 - place(where the story takes place): Brandon
 - time period(10 years ago), etc.

All of these prompts can be written down on the whiteboard for reference for the participants.