

Week 4 | Your job for this week is to create a first outline of your story using the Story Spine.

Week 4 | Exercise 1: Theme (20 mins)

Part A: Identify the theme of three of your favorite stories.

Part B: Brainstorm ideas for the moral of your own story. For ideas, return to the needs of your main character(s) from Week 2.

Week 4 | Exercise 2: Act 1 (30 mins)

Think about the things you want to present in Act 1 of your own story: consider who, what, where, and when. Remember that the primary focus of Act 1 is to establish setting, character, and inciting incident.

Try summarizing each step of Act 1 in a sentence:

ACT 1: 1. Once upon a time...
2. Every day...
3. Until one day...

Week 4 | Exercise 3: Act 2 (30 mins)

Now develop the information you want to present in Act 2 of your own story. Consider the following:

- What is the goal of your main character(s) at the start of Act 2?
- Does your character reach a low point? If so, why?
- When and how does your character learn something new or realize their needs?

Try summarizing each step of Act 2 in a sentence:

ACT 2: 4. Because of that...
5. Because of that...
6. Because of that...

Week 4 | Exercise 4: Act 3 (30 mins)

Now, develop the information you want to present in Act 3 of your own story. Here are some questions to think about:

- What is the crisis? This will appear in your "Until finally..." section.
- How will it be resolved?
- How will the main character demonstrate that they've changed? This will appear in your "And ever since then..." section.
- What is the moral of your story?

Try summarizing each step of Act 3 in a sentence:

ACT 3: 7. Until finally...
8. And ever since then...
The moral of the story is....

Week 4 | Exercise 5: Watch the advice video on story structure

Week 4 Deliverable: Story Spine (1 hour)

Once you come up with a story that your team likes, draw a visual for each step in the Story Spine, and turn it into a short video like this.

NAME _____

Don't worry if your drawings are rough, you'll be redrawing these frames later.