

# Narrative Story Frames for English Learners

As students are acquiring a sense of English syntax, it is very helpful to provide them with some sentence frames to scaffold their writing of stories. I've adapted these story frames from MadLibs with more familiar English vocabulary. Following the frames are some helpful lists of common verbs, adjectives, nouns, and other helpful English vocabulary so that students don't have to recall English words to use on their own. Make sure to review the word lists with the students and encourage them to draw pictures next to the words they don't already know so that they can remember what they mean.

## Home Alone

By \_\_\_\_\_

I was home alone and scared out of my \_\_\_\_\_. I could hear the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ing. I could see the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ing. I locked the door and went to bed.  
Suddenly, I heard a loud \_\_\_\_\_ outside. My \_\_\_\_\_ started to shake. I wanted my  
\_\_\_\_\_ to come home now.

There was a knock on the \_\_\_\_\_. What was it?

A \_\_\_\_\_ came in the house. It said, "Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_, What's your name?"

I started to \_\_\_\_\_ and then I woke up.

Body: head, legs, hands, face, arms, tummy, back, ears,

Hear: wind blowing, waves crashing, trees crackling, cars honking, rain dropping

See: moon shining, sun glaring, dark growing, storm coming,

Loud: crash, boom, scream, call, explosion, knock

Family: mom, dad, brother, sister, grandpa, grandma,

House: door, window, wall, glass

Three Little \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Once upon a time there were three little \_\_\_\_\_. The first little \_\_\_\_\_ was very \_\_\_\_\_. He built his house of \_\_\_\_\_. The second little \_\_\_\_\_ was very \_\_\_\_\_. He built his house of \_\_\_\_\_. The third little pig was the \_\_\_\_\_est, so he built his house of \_\_\_\_\_. It was very \_\_\_\_\_.

One day a mean old \_\_\_\_\_ came along and saw the houses. He said, “\_\_\_\_\_! I’ll huff and I’ll puff and I’ll blow your houses down!” He blew down the first two houses. The little \_\_\_\_\_ felt very \_\_\_\_\_. When he got to the third \_\_\_\_\_’s house he tried and he tried but he couldn’t blow his house down. So the pigs threw a \_\_\_\_\_ at him and he ran off into the \_\_\_\_\_. The little \_\_\_\_\_s moved to \_\_\_\_\_ and lived together happily ever after in a \_\_\_\_\_.

Animals: pigs, rats, cats, tigers, snakes, dogs, horses, turtles, rabbits, skunks

Words describing characters: mean, silly, smart, kind, slow, brave, lazy, bossy, helpful, messy, wild, shy

Building materials: straw, sticks, bricks, cement, plywood, cardboard, soda cans, glass,

Exclamation: Look out! Help! Howdy!

(sadface) sad, scared, lonely, mad, grouchy, frightened,

noun: ball, rock, pie, book, shoe, chair

place: forest, park, mall, school, store, city,

city

building: house, apartment, trailer, cabin,