



How to Make a Story Map

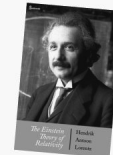
A good way to keep track of the major elements of a story is to construct a story map. You can do this either during or after you read.

YOU CAN USE ONE WHETHER YOU'RE DESCRIBING A FICTIONAL STORY OR A TRUE STORY.

Fictional



History



A Story Map comes in handy when it's time to: **Write or Study**

Follow these steps to construct a story map:

1 First, write down the title and author(s) of the story.

2 After that, list the **characters**, making a note of the main characters.

4 Next, list the **main events** in chronological order.

STORY MAP

Title: The Story of an Hour **Author:** Kate Chopin

<p style="text-align: center;">Characters</p> <p>Louise Mallard (Main Character) Brently Mallard, husband Josephine, sister Richards, friend of Brently</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Setting</p> <p>Late nineteenth century at the Mallard residence</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Main Events</p> <p>Louise learns of her husband's death as a result of a railroad disaster</p> <p>She locks herself up in her room and privately rejoices as she ponders a life of freedom. Ironically, the other characters believe she is grieving and worry she might make herself ill.</p> <p>Louise finds out her husband is still alive and dies of grief. Ironically, the other characters believe she died of a heart attack resulting from the joy of learning that her husband was still alive.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Conflict</p> <p>Louise struggles to define her identity, hopes, and dreams within her marriage. She feels both joy and guilt when she learns of her husband's death.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Resolution</p> <p>She dies of grief upon hearing the news that her husband is still alive.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Themes</p> <p>Freedom Selfhood Self-fulfillment The meaning of love</p>

3 Describe the **setting**—the place and time of the story.

5 Then, describe the major **conflict** that drives the story and the **resolution** achieved at the end.

6 Finally, sum up the major **themes** addressed by the story.

The contents of this web page were developed under grant #P116F150077 from the U.S. Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. EXCELSIOR COLLEGE.