

Y6 Narrative Flashback Viewpoint

KS2 Y6 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Write the opening of a flashback, triggered by a photograph.

Step 1 · Trigger in the present

Aisha picked up the faded photograph.

Step 2 · Time phrase

It had been taken on her first day at Brookfield, six years earlier.

Step 3 · Past perfect to carry the reader back

She had clung to Dad's hand all the way to the gate.

Answer: Aisha picked up the faded photograph. It had been taken on her first day at Brookfield, six years earlier. She had clung to Dad's hand all the way to the gate.

Check: After a sentence or two, you can slip into the simple past.

2. Now try one with the steps

End the flashback and return to the present.

Step 1 · Time signal

Step 2 · Present situation

Step 3 · Link to the trigger or the past

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. What is a flashback?

2. Give a time phrase that could start a flashback.

3. Write 'found' in the past perfect.

4. What object triggers the flashback in the model?

5. How many years earlier did Leo find the key?

6. Which pronoun shows first-person narration?

7. Is the model mostly first or third person?

8. How does the model show the change of viewpoint?

9. Rewrite in the past perfect to start a flashback: 'Maya lost her dog when she was six.'

10. What does Mum know that Leo does not?

11. Why might a writer change viewpoint to another character?

12. Write a sentence that returns from a flashback to the present.

13. Why can a first-person narrator not say 'Sam felt jealous'?

14. Write two sentences: a trigger in the present, then the start of a flashback.

4. Before you hand it in

Jumping into the past with no signal.

Use a trigger, a time phrase and the past perfect.

Never coming back from the flashback.

Signal the return: 'Now...', and link to the trigger.

Switching viewpoint mid-paragraph.

Change viewpoint only at a clear break and keep each section consistent.

Using the past perfect for the whole flashback: 'had... had... had...'

Use it to enter the flashback, then slip into the simple past.