

MYSTERY SKELETON SHEET

SETTING . Where does the story take place? Write vividly so the readers feel like they are actually there with the characters. In this box, tell where and when you plan to have your story occur.

CAST OF CHARACTERS . The main character is most important. How will your character's personality affect the way the story is solved? Minor characters involved may help the main character or prevent the main character from solving the story. List your characters here. You will need to create a character web for each character. By each character's name, write a phrase to explain who he or she is in the story.

CONFLICT . The main character has a problem to be solved. In this box, explain what the main conflict of the story is. What is the problem to be solved?

RIISING ACTION . Develop suspense with clues. One clue must be the key to solving the crime. Red herrings are clues that are designed to mislead the reader by making them suspect the wrong characters. Red herrings are fun because they make the mystery harder to solve. List the events you will use to develop your story. Stop right before you solve the mystery. Do NOT tell the final step when the mystery is solve. (Use the back if necessary.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

CLIMAX . Moment when the mystery is solved . In this box, tell the solution to the mystery . how the conflict is solved. This is the big moment your readers have been waiting for.

RESOLUTION . tying up the loose ends . Tell what details your reader has to know to understand how the mystery was solved. This will be the last paragraph or two of your story.

OPENING SENTENCE . Grab the reader's attention and make them want to read the rest of the story. Begin with something interesting happening. Try starting with dialogue or action.