Story Writing

The young and the old enjoy hearing and reading stories. Interesting stories particularly appeal to everyone. Here are some important points that can help us to make a story interesting and impressive:
1. The story should have a clear and well planned plot.
2. The events should follow a natural order.
3. It should be in simple English.
4. Dialogues should be impressive and worded as naturally as possible.
5. It should always be in the past tense.
6. There should be no grammatical mistakes.
7. It should have some suspense for the reader, to make the story have a strong grip.

Practice makes a man perfect; holds good in the case of story writing too.

Developing a story from a given outline is easier than writing one on a heading or a moral. Whatever the case, the conclusion or the end should be handsomely drawn and moral (if any) should follow in a natural and clear way.

Specimen:
Develop the following outline into a readable story:
A farmer has three sons they keep on quarrelling father advises again and again but to no effect falls seriously ill sends for the sons asks them to bring a handful of sticks ties them into a bundle asks them to break it turn by turn all the three fail unites the bundle asks them to break single stick they easily break lesson united we stand, divided we fall.

A Farmer and his Sons

Once upon a time, there lived a farmer in a village. He had three sons. They always quarrelled with one another. The farmer was much worried about them. He advised them to live in peace but all in vain. One day he fell seriously ill. He planned to advise them for the last time. He sent for his sons. They came at once. He asked them to bring a bundle of sticks. When they did so, he ordered them to break the bundle one by one. They tried their best to break it but none could succeed.
At last, the farmer untied the bundle and asked each of them to break a stick one by one. Everyone broke his stick quite easily. The farmer then advised them that if they were united like the sticks, no one would harm them. But they would be ruined if they were divided. This had a very good effect on them. So they began to live peaceably.

oral:
1. Union is strength.
2. United we stand, divided we fall.

1. Kindness of the Holy Prophet

Once the Holy Prophet was going to a certain place along with his companions. On their way, one of the companions of the Holy Prophet saw a nest of sparrows in a bush. He picked up the young ones of sparrows. All at once, the sparrows began to cry and fly over their heads wildly. The Holy Prophet asked his companions why they were flying so wildly. He was told the whole story.

The Holy Prophet felt sorry for the poor little birds and advised his companions to put the baby sparrows back into the nest. On this, the sparrows felt relief. This act shows that our Holy Prophet was not only kind to human beings but also to birds, animals and even to the small insects. He said, "Be kind to others, God will be kind to you.

oral:
1. God is kind to one who is kind to others.
2. Kindness is a great virtue.

2. Robbers turn good citizens

Once Hazrat Sheikh Abdul Qadir Gillani (God be pleased with him) set off on a journey with his companions. His pious mother stitched up forty gold coins in his shirt and advised him to speak the truth always. When they entered the forest, a gang of robbers fell upon them and looted everyone. A robber searched Hazrat Abdul Qadir Gillani (God be pleased with him) thoroughly and found nothing. The robber asked him
whether he had something. Hazrat Abdul Qadir (God be pleased with him) told him that he had forty gold coins (١٠٠٠٠) stitched in his shirt. The robber took him to the leader of the gang. The leader asked him why he had not denied (١٠٠٠٠) of having the money. The boy told the leader that his mother had advised him to speak the truth always. The leader was greatly impressed (١٠٠٠٠) by the innocent truthfulness (١٠٠٠٠) of the young boy. He gave up (١٠٠٠٠) his bad deeds (١٠٠٠٠٠), returned everything to all the members (١٠٠٠٠) of the caravan and became a good citizen.

Morals:
1. Always speak the truth.
2. Self remorse
3. Truth is evergreen.

3. The Donkey Trapped in his Own Trick

A salt trader (١٠٠٠٠) used to bring salt from the city on his donkey's back. There was a stream (١٠٠٠٠) on his way. One day, the foot of the donkey slipped and it fell down into the stream. Its master helped it to stand up with great difficulty (١٠٠٠٠). In the meantime, a large quantity of salt dissolved in the water and the donkey was delighted to find the load lighter (١٠٠٠٠) than before. The next day, it sat down in midstream (١٠٠٠٠٠) to lessen (١٠٠٠٠) his load. The trader saw through (١٠٠٠٠) his trick (١٠٠٠٠). He made up his mind (١٠٠٠٠) to teach the donkey a lesson. One day he loaded it with two bales of cotton. As usual (١٠٠٠٠) it sat down in the stream to lighten its load. But when it got up. It could not walk under the heavy load of the soaked cotton (١٠٠٠٠٠٠). The donkey resolved (١٠٠٠٠) never to repeat (١٠٠٠٠) this trick in future (١٠٠٠٠).

Morals:
1. Do not play foul.
2. Experience is the best teacher.

4. A Foolish Stag

On a hot summer day, a stag was drinking water from a pool (١٠٠٠٠). It saw its reflection (١٠٠٠٠) in the clear water. It felt proud of its beautiful horns but it did not like its thin (١٠٠٠٠) legs. Suddenly, it saw a pack of hounds (١٠٠٠٠٠) coming towards it. It ran for its life as fast as its legs could carry it. In no time, it left the hounds far behind. Now it happened to pass through a
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7. A Big Reward

Once a hungry wolf was eating his prey. In order to finish it quickly, he swallowed big bite of flesh. A bone also went in and stuck into his throat. It hurt him very much. He decided to seek the help of a crane. He requested the crane to pick out the bone from his throat. The crane was afraid lest the wolf should bite off his head. But the wolf assured him of safety and also a big reward for this service. At last, the crane agreed. It put its long beak into the throat of the wolf and pulled out the bone. The wolf felt very happy. The crane demanded the promised reward for the service. The wolf at once said, "Isn't it a big reward that I have not bitten off your head when it could not escape my teeth?" The crane was disappointed at this. So, it went away cursing the cunning wolf.
Morals:
1. A wolf may lose its teeth but not its nature.
2. A fair face may hide a foul heart.

8. The Tailor and the Elephant

A tailor ran a shop in a certain bazaar. An elephant used to go to a pond for drinking water through this bazaar. The tailor was a good-natured man. He used to give him a bun daily. In the course of time, they became good friends. One day, the tailor had a dispute with one of his customers. He was feeling cross. Meanwhile, the elephant came to receive the bun as usual. The tailor, instead of giving him a bun, pricked its trunk with a needle. The elephant became angry but silently went his way to drink. On his return, he filled his trunk with muddy water and emptied it on all the fine and costly dresses hanging in the shop. All the dresses were badly spoiled with the spray of muddy water. The tailor felt very sorry for what he had done.
9. The Clever Cat and the Vain Fox

Once a cat met a fox in a forest. The fox greeted the cat and invited her to have a chat. But the cat said that it was not a safe place because the hunters usually came that way. The fox did not care for the warning of cat and boasted of his knowing many tricks to dodge hunters. He inquired the cat how many tricks she knew to dodge the hunters. She simply replied that she only knew how to climb a tree in the time of danger. The fox looked down upon the cat. Just then, the cat noticed a hunter approaching with a pack of hounds. She at once climbed up the nearest tree and saved her life. The hounds came upon the vain fox very soon. The fox ran for his life but the hounds overtook him and tore him into pieces.

Morals:
1. Vanity is self deception.
2. Pride hath a fall.

10. Muslim Brotherhood

In the past, Muslims were sincerely devoted to one another and made every sacrifice for one another. In the battle of Yermuk, Abu Jahan Bin Huzefa set out in search of his cousin who was fighting on the battle-front. He carried a water-skin to offer water to the thirsty soldiers. He found his cousin lying seriously injured. He was about to die. Abu Jahan offered him a cup of water. Just then, another injured soldier 'Hisham Bin Abil' cried for water. Abu's cousin asked him to give the cup of water to Hisham. When he came near Hisham, he heard another cry from a mujahid. Hisham asked Abu to offer the cup of water to him. So Abu went quickly to the third one but he had died. Abu quickly went back to Hisham but he had also died. Then he rushed back to his cousin but he too had left for his
heavenly home (الجنة). This shows that Muslims had a great sense of sacrifice for one another. They were really (الخير) great.

Moral:
1. It is a great virtue to be helpful.

11. The Boy Who Cried "Wolf"

Once there lived a shepherd (الشبل) in a village (القرية). He used to bring sheep in the jungle to let them graze. One day, he thought of a strange joke (السخرية). He shouted (ال катал) "Wolf! Wolf!" The villagers ran to his help with their weapons. When they came near him, they found him laughing. They cursed (السخرية) him and went back. After a few days, he repeated (ال катал) the same joke. People came to his help but there was no wolf again. They were very annoyed (الغضب) at him. They decided not to help him next time. One day, a wolf did come there. The boy cried, "Wolf! Wolf!" many times (ال катал) but nobody came to his help. The wolf killed him and many of his sheep. In this way (الإسفاف), he received punishment for his silly joke (السخرية).

Morals:
1. Never tell a lie.
2. Once a liar, always a liar.

12. The Jester and the King

Once upon a time, a king had a jester in his court. He enjoyed every kind of liberty (الحرية) of speech. This had made him bold (القذف) and proud.

One day, the king was holding court and was busy in serious state affairs (الدبلوماسية). The jester made fun of him. The king got highly offended (الوجوب) and sentenced (العقوبة) the jester to death. The jester begged (الكال) for mercy but the king turned down (الرفض) his request. At last, when the jester pleaded for mercy again and again, the king said, "Die you must, but I grant you the freedom to choose (الإشراف) the kind of death you like".

The clever jester readily used his wit and requested the king to die of old age. The king was impressed by his ready wit (الذكاء) and forgave him with the warning (التحذير) to be careful in future.

Moral:
1. It never pays to over-reach yourself.
13. **The Greedy Dog**

Once, there lived a greedy dog in a certain town. He stole a piece of meat from a butcher’s shop and ran away. He wanted to eat it alone. So he decided to go away from the town. On the way, he had to cross a stream by bridge. The water was deep and crystal clear. The dog saw his reflection in the water. He took it for another dog with a larger piece of meat in his mouth. He was very greedy. He decided to get that piece of meat also. Without wasting any time, he barked at it. As he opened the mouth his own piece fell in to the water. Thus, instead of getting another piece of meat, he lost his own piece.

**Moral:**

1. Greed is a curse.

14. **The Fox and the Grapes**

One day, a fox was very hungry. He went about in search of food. After sometime, he reached a garden. He saw bunches of ripe grapes hanging down a high wall. His mouth watered. He wanted to eat them and jumped at them again and again but could not reach them. At last, he gave up his struggle and went away saying, “These grapes are sour, I will not like to eat them”.

**Moral:**

1. Grapes are sour
2. People pretend to dislike what they cannot get.

15. **A Merchant and His Horse**

Once there lived a rich merchant in a town. One day he had to go a long way on his business tour. It was already getting dark. A nail fell from the horse’s hoofs. At night, he stayed at an inn. The inn-boy warned him to mend the nail of the shoe of horse but he was in a great hurry. So he did not care for the warning. He continued his journey. The nail ran into the horse’s hoof and made him lame. Now the horse could not walk any longer. In the meantime, robbers appeared from the jungle. They killed the merchant, looted all his money and made their way.

**Moral:**

2. A stitch in time saves nine.
16. The Tiger and the Greedy Man

Once upon a time, a tiger killed a woman. She had a golden bangle in round her wrist. The tiger kept the golden bangle with him. One day, a man came there. He was standing on the bank of a stream in order to cross it. Suddenly, the tiger appeared from his den. The man got afraid. But the tiger told him that it had become pious (ﷺ) and kept praying all the time. The tiger offered the man the golden bangle as a gift. The man was very greedy. He readily came near the tiger to receive the gift. The tiger at once jumped upon the man and tore him into pieces.

Morals:
1. Greed is a curse.
2. A wolf may lose its teeth but not its nature.

17. A Flock Of Pigeons and the Net

Once upon a time a flock of pigeons came flying to vast (ﷺ) green fields. They looked down and saw plenty (ﷺ) of food grains (ﷺ). They asked their chief to alight (ﷺ). He did not allow them to do so because he feared that the net was set by some hunter. The pigeons insisted (ﷺ) that there was no fear of a net and their fear was baseless. At last, the leader had to surrender (ﷺ). So he accepted their proposal (ﷺ). They landed and were caught in a net. All of them were very puzzled (ﷺ). They requested their leader to do something to get out of the net. He advised them to exert their power together and pull the net up. They acted upon his advice and got rid of the dangerous problem.

Moral:
1. Union is strength.

18. A Traveller and the Tiger

Once a kind-hearted (ﷺ) man was passing through a forest. Suddenly, he found a tiger caught in a cage. The tiger begged the man to let him out of the cage. The man was afraid of the beast but, at last, he set him free. The tiger knocked the man down to eat him. The man said that he was ungrateful (ﷺ). Both went to papal tree for opinion (ﷺ). The tree said that the man was ungrateful. Then they went to the bullock for decision (ﷺ). It upheld (ﷺ) the papal’s decision. Then they asked a jackal for its opinion. It was of the opinion that a big beast (ﷺ) like a tiger could not be contained (ﷺ) in such a small cage. The tiger jumped...
into the cage to prove it. The jackal shut the door at once. The man thanked the jackal for saving his life and went his way.

Moral:
1. A fair face may hide a foul heart.

19. The Farmer and His Lazy Sons

A farmer had four sons. All of them were lazy and did nothing. He advised them many times to work but all in vain($\text{ندرکنند}$). At last, he fell seriously($\text{بیماری}$) ill. He sent for his sons and told them about a hidden($\text{کشف}$) treasure ($\text{بیزان}$) buried($\text{خاک}$) in the fields. Saying this, he passed away ($\text{بیکار}$). The four sons dug all the fields deep. But they found no treasure. A wise man advised them to sow seeds in the fields. They sowed the land and after some days, bumper($\text{بیکار}$) crop grew in the fields. Then they realised the wisdom($\text{بیکار}$) of their father. They gave up laziness($\text{بیکار}$) and became hard working farmers.

Moral:
1. Necessity is the mother of invention.

20. The Ant and the Cricket

Once upon a time there lived a foolish cricket in a garden. He kept on singing merrily throughout($\text{تنهایی}$) spring and summer. He did not lay by($\text{بیکار}$) anything for winter. Soon the winter season set in. Snow covered everything. He could not find anything to eat. So he began to starve($\text{بیکار}$). One day he went to an ant living nearby. He begged for food and shelter($\text{بیکار}$). The ant said, "We ants neither lend nor borrow". She asked him what he had been doing in spring and summer. The cricket replied, "It was so pleasant that I had been singing all the time". "Now spend the whole winter in dancing!" the ant replied, "Those who do not save something for future must live without food".

Morals:
1. No pains, no gains.
2. Save something for rainy days.

21. A Richman and His Servant

Once a rich man and his family were riding in a four horse carriage along with their servant. They passed through a jungle. Suddenly, some hungry wolves attacked them. They were terrified($\text{بیکار}$). The rich man ordered his faithful($\text{بیکار}$) servant to let loose($\text{کنترل}$) two horses one by one so that they might escape from the hungry wolves. But the wolves came up again
and again. At last, the servant drew his sword (م kiếm) and jumped on the wolves. He fought with the wolves bravely. This fight gave the rich man and his family enough time to escape from the scene.

Moral:

1. Crooked by nature are made straight by rod.

22. The Hare And The Lion

Once there lived a fierce (ل این) lion in a jungle. He killed many animals. All the animals of the jungle were terrified. They held a meeting to get rid (س لم) of the lion. A hare offered his services to save them from the lion. One day, the lion sent for the hare. It willfully (ل این یک) reached the lion’s den very late. The lion asked him in rage (س لم), why he was so late. The hare told the lion that another lion had stopped him on the way. The lion ordered the hare to take him to the other lion. The hare was very wise. He took the lion to a well (کونا). The lion saw his reflection (م کا) in the well. He jumped into the well with an angry roar (ت ذال) and was drowned ( م گری) in this way, the wise hare saved the lives of other animals of the jungle.

Morals:

1. Wisdom over-rules strength.

2. Two of trades seldom agree.