

Frightful Film Trailer



Lesson 1

Today's outcome is to write an effective description of a setting.

NB. You may wish to take photographs of a particular location in your school before this lesson starts. See the main section of this lesson plan.* Always save your annotated interactive whiteboard files.

Introduction (15 mins)

This lesson introduces the concept of the project. Tell the pupils that they are going to create a film trailer for a film that is mysterious, thrilling and a little scary. Watch the **Trailer for a Trailer** video.

Discuss with pupils the job of the film trailer and what makes a good one. Ask the pupils to rewatch the Trailer for a Trailer and count the number of scenes (each scene is separated by the titles). Discuss as a group what happens in each scene, perhaps playing the video again and stopping it at each title screen. Example scene names: introduction of setting, introduction of character, building tension etc.

Visit <http://www.ataleunfolds.co.uk/training> for class workshops and teacher training.

Model (15 mins)

Share just the opening scene from the film 'Alma' (up to approximately 3 minutes). As pupils watch, they may be able to write down any words or phrases that describe the setting. They may describe the setting as a whole using words such as snowy and deserted or they may describe particular parts of the scene visually, e.g. dark, mysterious corners, shopfront like a gaping jaw, etc. Make notes on the IWB of the pupil ideas for modelling.

Discuss use of language for effect. There is a stark contrast between; 'Snow fell gently like dancing cotton wool on its own blanket', and, 'Snow was falling on the ground.'

Model writing using the class's ideas to create an effective setting description for Alma which includes language for effect and imagery such as simile and metaphors, e.g. The snow fell slowly from the sky, like dancing cotton wool, in the deserted streets of the village.'

Main (20 mins)

10 mins

Watch **How to Film (Lesson 1)**. Use the IWB file to choose one setting as a whole class for your **own** trailer based on the three suggestions. *You may wish to use a few of photos from your own school in order to give the children some real context to work with. Whatever scene you decide to use, you may find it easier to encourage a whole class decision so that everyone is working on a common idea. Make notes on the IWB on the setting for their trailer so that they have a bank of ideas to work from in the next task.

10 mins

Pupils write an effective setting description, making use of the Write Brothers' example in the IWB file as well as the modeled writing section of the introduction.

Plenary (10 mins)

Ask pupils to spend 5 minutes reading their work to a partner. They should try to make it sound scary without the need for special sound effects. Encourage using intonation instead. In partners or groups, children discuss and highlight one sentence from a partner's work which effectively describes the trailer setting. Write the setting description in box **Sentence A** of the **Trailer Template**. This sentence will form the opening line of their trailer during the editing phase.