#### **GIVEDIRECT**

## GivingTuesday Toolkit Series

## **How To Tell Your Story**



# Essential Elements of a Story

1.

Exposition: Introduce your characters and setting. Your characters and events should be real people and real events. Make sure to give enough detail about the characters' background that your reader will want to continue reading.



2.



Inciting Incident: This is an event in your story that throws the main character into a challenging situation or introduces the problem to be solved.

3.

### Rising Action or Complications:

This is an incident or series of incidents that creates suspense, interest, and tension. It builds toward the point of greatest interest in your story. This section is a good opportunity to show how your work made / can make an impact on the problem.



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Climax: The defining moment of your story. Your character realizes the path to a resolution of the problem. This part of your story will also have the highest emotional impact on your audience.

5.

Conclusion: The outcome of the story is revealed, and your characters continue on with their lives. Is the problem resolved or not resolved? This is the opportunity to present your Call To Action.

