

## Lesson 13 A Story Line

A **story** tells about made-up people or animals. They are the **characters** in the story.

A story has a **setting** telling where and when the action takes place.

A story has a **plot**, or series of events, with a problem that needs to be solved.

An interesting **beginning**, a **middle**, and an **ending** make a story fun to read.

**Describing words** tell about the characters, setting, and events.

Read this story. Think about what happens at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end.



### Max's Message

Today was Max's teacher's birthday, and Max woke up late. He scrambled around the house to get ready, brushing his teeth while pulling on his white socks. He grabbed a fresh apple from the kitchen on his way to the bus stop. He made it to the bus stop just as the bright yellow school bus was pulling up.

After Max hung up his red winter coat, he sat down at his desk in the middle of the room. Max then realized that he had forgotten Ms. Emery's birthday card at home. He hadn't put it in his backpack last night, and he had forgotten to grab it from the kitchen table on his way out. What was he going to do?

It was too cold outside to have recess, so Ms. Emery brought out the art supplies, and the students spent their recess drawing and writing. Max drew a huge birthday cake, with glowing candles and five layers. He wrote his name and took it up to Ms. Emery.

"Happy birthday, Ms. Emery," Max said.

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Answer these questions about "Max's Message." Look back at the story on page 44 if you need to.

Who are the characters in the story?

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The action takes place in two settings. What are they?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is the problem that Max has to solve?

\_\_\_\_\_

What happens at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the story?

Beginning	Middle	End

How does the writer describe the apple and the school bus? Find these and other describing words. List them here.

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