

QUESTION AND ANSWER ARTICLE ON STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES

by:

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1. What was the importance of the early storyteller in a world without television, radio, or movies?

The entertainment of great antiquity was mostly contributed by the ancient storytellers. From amusing mouths to wondering ears of the lovers of ideas, concepts and events, a lot of stories have been passed and treasured as if these are notable pieces of art. These tales and narratives have brought people of early times to a rollercoaster of imaginary experiences, which made them feel ecstatic, melancholic, astonished and all other extreme emotions that stained the surface of their memories. It is for a reason that, before, there were no hilarious movies of famous actors and actresses, even the very inventor of the first ever television was not yet born. Thus, stories and news were all passed through telling and listening from a plural site of human sources. Today, stories are mostly told to children, but in early ages, storytelling is a daily practice of adult individuals to pass and preserve their historical beliefs, life situations and traditions long before the use of written words started to arise. Storytellers are also crucial in connecting people from various places and islands, as they travel from one place to another just to share series of stories, so that people could pass it to someone, and from that one to another. In a nutshell, storytellers have utmost importance in the preservation of our historical events and ancient stories.

2. What are five good techniques to use when presenting a story?

There are five techniques to effectively present a story in front of readers of different ages. Firstly, you must know audience, whether they are old or young, conservatives or moderns, formal or colloquial, and other different classifications must be considered before you start telling a story. Secondly, it is important for a story teller to practice or rehearse the story, to master the expression of words and emotions appropriate in catching the attention of the listeners. Third, begin the story with a fairytale-like introduction in order to initially attracts the interest of your audiences. Also, the reader must speak or narrate the story as if voices of characters are what actually listeners come to hear. Right tones and intonations are good ways to retain the attention of audiences to actively wait for the most exciting part. Lastly, an eye-to-eye contact can complete the techniques in catching not only the listening ears of audiences but also their eyes that watch every movement of your mouth while you speak.

3. Why are personal stories good selections for telling?

Personal stories are the best story to tell because of its uniqueness that drives the audiences to be more interested to listen. It also makes a good start for a subtle story, as you are telling how you experience a weird or silly situation when you were young, and then you'll start to utter your main dish after entertaining them with your quick little story. Moreover, personal stories can help you capture the attention of your readers by allowing them to get confused why you are telling such stories in a humorous way. That gives the best way for you to present your main idea or theme, that is something connected or related to your personal life experience. Audiences love to hear something they haven't heard before; thus, your personal story could make the best and the most unique story that your listeners have ever known in their entire existence.

4. What are some sources for stories written in the oral tradition?

During the times of civilizations, sources of stories written in oral traditions are mostly folklores which provided listeners some sort of concepts about tales, beliefs, customs, and traditions of ancient people during those times. Furthermore, writing was not yet a form of story preservation, as people were all communicating only through talking with each other, or exchanging utterances in forms of storytelling. All types of folklores including legends, folktales, parables, fables and fairytales are those considered as sources of stories in oral tradition which some are now preserved through modern writing, and some are forever forgotten.

5. What elements of a narrative should you take into account before selecting one to learn?

We cannot decide if we wanted to learn a story if we won't hear about it. Thus, choosing aspects of a story to learn requires several readings before you can tell it to your audiences with all your heart. You must be mindful of how events went from the very beginning of your story to the ending. In learning a story, you should also consider the theme, so that you can always go back to your main point, if ever you have forgotten some ideas, because memorization in storytelling is not advisable as

it would only make you have so many dead airs figuring out what line you have missed. You should just memorize few important lines or punch lines, so that you can always get the interest of your listeners. Try to learn, additionally, how to enunciate words, as verbal aspects are the most important to consider, because a storyteller would never wish to stutter in front of his audiences. Mostly, before choosing a story to learn, you must know if it is really a meaningful one that would make your listener breathe heavily as you tell the climax of the story.

6. Describe the best way for you to learn a story.

The story I intend to share can be learned in a variety of ways. Every storyteller starts by reciting the story out loud multiple times. During these sessions, I must visualize the personalities, emotions, and actions in my head. Make a storyline structure, or a summary of what transpires in the story. It's critical to convey the story in the exact chronological order. It'd be like cracking a joke and missing the catch phrase if I told it out of sequence. Recording myself telling the tale to see whether I understand it. Then re-learn the parts that I had trouble remembering. A thorough comprehension of the characters and activities is more vital than memorizing a narrative word for word. Simply memorize critical lines that must be worded accurately as the author intended. Split the story into 3 categories for easier learning: the start, the center, and the finale. The introduction sets the tone for the rest of my story. We get to know the key people, learn about the place, and learn about the dilemma. The story's journey begins in the center. Many other personalities are revealed in this portion of the chapter, the difficulty unfolds, the tension develops, and the plot reaches a peak. The conclusion is the last aspect of the story. This section of the story culminates so when issue is solved and secures all questions unanswered. I must choose a story that interests me; it will be exciting and convenient to understand. One of the finest ways to learn a tale is to listen to myself repeat it again and again. If I'm halted while practicing, I can start over; I must pick up where I left off. To summarize, the adage "practice makes perfect" is absolutely true.

7. Before you begin to tell a story, what information should you share with your audience?

The method I start my narrative with determines whether I get a strong reception from my audience or not, so I have to be incredibly precise. My work must have a captivating quality to it. I need to make my story as intriguing as possible. I have to take a breather and settle before I begin. Make the audience feel as if I'm speaking directly to them personally. Prepare the audiences for the storytelling by introducing the title,

author, and settings. I could have found extra interesting tidbits about the story which would have piqued and grabbed the audience's interest, I could include that too.

8. As you are telling a story, what are some of the things you can do to make yourself more comfortable?

I must provide myself opportunities to invest hours learning and rehearsing the story I would deliver so that I could master it because nothing could ever make me more comfortable than knowing that I have the full knowledge of what I am narrating. Of sort, I must have a fine experience as well. Get my audiences as fascinated by the story as it was the first time I read it. I ought to breathe deeply and relax to find myself more confident and comfortable. Glance out into the crowd, maintain eye contact with a few individuals, and assume that they too will enjoy the story as much as I do. Create an atmosphere for the storyline and concentrate on telling the narrative to my audiences, ensuring that they appreciate it as much as I do. Observe the audiences' reactions, then reduce speed or quicken, talk louder or more gently in reaction. I should pause and return to my seat after I have finished my story. Take satisfaction in the fact that, as a wordsmith, I've helped to keep the craftsmanship of storytelling burning.

References:

Media and Technology in Children and Adolescent Literature.

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