GETTING STARTED

Some suggestions on how to start implementing the Seven Steps in your narrative writing lessons.

Timeline	Topic	Key point	What to read	Activities
Week 1	Introduction	Chunk large tasks – the tennis analogy	Key teaching principles, p 2 Alpha and Beta brain waves, p 14	Teachers plan and get ready.
	Step 2: Sizzling Starts	Start with action or at a moment of change	Step 2 Theory and Top Techniques, p 3 Read Sizzling Starts from familiar and favourite texts. Lists of texts on the Seven Steps website.	Five Minute Fast Starts, pp 4–5
Week 2	Step 2: Sizzling Starts	NAPLAN values Sizzling Starts	Repeat this in Week 2: Read Sizzling Starts from familiar and favourite texts. Lists of texts on the Seven Steps website. Watch Sizzling Starts in a few favourite movies or use the videos on pp 56–7	Photo Fast Starts, p 6 What's the Alternative? p 6 Five Minute News Flash, p 6
Week 3	Step 3: Tightening Tension	Tension takes time to build to a crescendo	Step 3 Theory and Top Techniques, p 9	Using the Senses, p 11 Five + 1 Senses Brainstorm, p 10 (don't forget to use this template on excursions!)
Week 4	Step 3: Tightening Tension	The 'pebble, rock, boulder' technique in narrative writing	Step 3 Theory and Top Techniques, p 9	Manufactured Tension, p 12 Dinosaur Dilemma, p 12 Documentary Tension, p 12
Week 5	Step 7: Exciting Endings	Ban the 'quick fix' endings	Step 7 Theory and Top Techniques, p 17	Sticky Situations, p 18
Week 6	Step 7: Exciting Endings	There are two parts to an ending	Step 7 Theory and Top Techniques, p 17	The Big Race, p 19
Week 7	Step 1: Plan for Success	Brainstorm 10 ideas to get one great idea	Step 1 Theory and Top Techniques (Narrative), p 22	Brainstorming Ideas, p 23
Week 8	Step 1: Plan for Success	The Story Graph (use *Shrek* or any movie you like)	Sample Narrative Story Graph – *Shrek*, p 24	Planning on the Story Graph, p 25 Narrative Story Graph, p 26

For more guidance on how to implement all Seven Steps in any text type, go to the narrative, persuasive and informative writing courses on *Teacher Hub*.