



# (Extremely) Short Stories.



First there was the text message where you had to say all you wanted to in 160 characters...

After that came Twitter, where you could only tell the world what you were doing with a measly 140 characters...

And now comes the ultimate challenge... an **Extremely Short Story** is one where you have to tell your tale using **ten words** (or less, if you think you're up to it!)

## Sounds easy?

Well it's not! It's actually quite tricky to make your ten words interesting enough to tell a story.

Here are some handy hints...

1. Start off by thinking of a famous story (perhaps a fairy tale) and try and sum it up in a sentence.
2. Once you've got the sentence, cross out any words you could manage without. Make sure that the sentence still makes sense, though!
3. Juggle the words around and use punctuation marks. Sometimes by moving things around you can use less words.
4. Once you've tried a famous story, have a go at writing an epic ten word story of your own!
5. Share your story with other schools. Your teacher can fill in the Comments form at [www.sparkyteacher.com/creative/words/extremely-short-stories/](http://www.sparkyteacher.com/creative/words/extremely-short-stories/)

## Some examples to get you started...

**"We have lift off! wait... stop! I'm scared of heights!"**

**Explorer sits down to eat a salami sandwich. AAAAAARH... A lion!**

**She started to write her ten word story. She quit.**

This one is based on 'Goldilocks And The Three Bears'...

**Moral: never have a kip after scoffing a bear's breakfast.**

This one is a shortened version of 'The Lion, The Witch And The Wardrobe'...

**Bedroom furniture leads to magical world. Turkish delight is mentioned!**

And here is 'Fantastic Mr Fox' – the ten word version...

**Fox gets hungry. Goes on biggest underground food raid ever!**

Finally, here's one we found on the internet and it made us smile... It was written by an author called Alan Moore...

**Machine. Unexpectedly. I'd invented a time...**