**Common features to Fairy tales**

Fairy tale is an imaginative story or piece of literature told in a variety of media. The stories are based on magic and fantastical settings, plots, and characters and happy endings.

A fairy tale tells a compelling story with a timeless theme.

Quality Characteristics of fairy tales

* The plot drives the story with action and suspense.
* The characters are involved in a conflict or problem that is universal and relatable to real life.
* The problems are resolved with happy endings.

Story Element descriptions for fairy tales

*Characterization*

* Characters and objects can have special powers. Magical objects, magical spells, fairy godmothers, wicked witches, ...
* Animals act like people (animorphisism).

*Setting*

* Place is imaginary or of another world or another universe or any place or placeless ...
* Time is anytime or no time (timeless) or long long ago …
* Fantasy time (Once upon a time sets the stage and They lived happily ever after closes the tale.)

*Plot*

* Repeating patterns. Often in threes.
* Varied, but usually suprising twists or developments.
* Involving situations not possible in our realistic world.
* Fast moving action that grabs the listeners interest and keeps it.
* Conflicts are usually resolved with great deeds or acts of human kindness related to good and evil.

*Theme*

* Usually a moral : Rags to riches, trust and everything will turn out okay,
* Uses magic or other ideas to achieve the extremly impossible.
	1. Problems of children and young adults
	2. Security
	3. Overcoming fear
	4. Fear of not being loved or giving love
	5. Justice – injustice - loyalty
	6. Good and evil
	7. Coming of age - appearance
	8. Happiness, kindness, friendship,
	9. Good triumphant over evil
	10. Forgiving

*Style*

* Poetic, dramatic, neutral, narrative …

*Tone*

* Cynical, playful, sentimental, comic, ironic, naïve, satirical …

*Point of View*

* Could be any. Often third person narrative.