

Characteristics of Traditional Stories

1. Folk Tale	<p>A story/legend from oral tradition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ More often told than read❖ Handed down between generations❖ Universal/timeless themes❖ Tries to make sense of our existence, help humans cope, explain origin of something.
2. Fairy Tale	<p>A fanciful tale of legendary deeds and creatures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Usually intended for children❖ Improbable events lead to a happy ending (usually)❖ Often involve magic and good triumphing over evil
3. Tall Tale	<p>A humorous, exaggerated story about impossible events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Focuses on the achievements of a hero/heroine who is bigger, stronger, and louder than an average person.

<p>4. Fable</p>	<p>Teaches a lesson or moral about human nature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Usually includes animals with human qualities. ❖ The moral is either directly or indirectly stated through what happens in the story ❖ Example: Aesop's Fable: The Hare and the Tortoise.
<p>5. Legend</p>	<p>A story handed down through many generations and believed to be based on real people and events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A hero/heroine with unusual powers ❖ Focuses on a struggle to defeat a powerful force ❖ Highlights a positive quality or way of behaving
<p>6. Myth</p>	<p>A traditional story created to explain mysteries of the universe ex: fire, thunder, lightning. Can also explain customs/ideals of society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Features gods and supernatural beings ❖ Emphasizes behavior flaws ❖ Reveals consequences of good and bad behavior