

ENGLISH · GRADES 3–4

Narrative vs Non-narrative

Two big text families

Compare

	Narrative	Non-narrative
Purpose	Tells a story	Informs, instructs, or persuades
Person	Often 1st or 3rd person	Often 2nd person or impersonal
Tense	Usually past	Often present
Order	Chronological — beginning, middle, end	Logical — by topic or steps
Examples	novel, short story, fable, diary	report, instructions, recipe, news, poster

Sort these texts

Narrative	Non-narrative	

Cut out and sort: a fairy tale, a recipe, a news report, a diary entry, a how-to-tie-shoelaces guide, a novel, a science textbook chapter, a personal story, a poster about recycling, a fable, an autobiography, the rules of a game

