

# Write Your Own Sci-Fi Short Story

Science Fiction. This is a literary genre in which fantasy, typically based on speculative scientific discoveries or developments, environmental changes, space travel, or life on other planets, forms part of the plot or background.

**Examples:** “The Fun They Had”, “The Veldt”, “Robot Dreams”, “There Will Come Soft Rains”, and “The Ones That Walk Away from Omelas”

## **Elements of Science Fiction**

### **1. Basic Situation**

- A setting in outer space, on other worlds or planets, or involving aliens, or all of these elements combined
- A setting somewhere in the future, in a parallel universe, in an alternative timeline, or in a historical past that oppose known facts of history or archaeological finds
- Stories that engage scientific principles or technology that contradict known laws of physics or nature

### **2. Conflict**

- Man vs. Science/Technology

### **3. Complications/ Rising Actions**

- Stories that involve the discovery **or** the application of new scientific principles (time travel); **or** new innovations **or** technology (nanotechnology, faster-than-light travel, etc.); **or** robots; **or** new and different political **or** social systems

### **4. Climax**

- There is some kind of struggle between Man and his humanity with the advances of technology

### **5. Resolution**

- Either Man or technology wins

### **6. Theme**

- The lesson is usually about the power of science and how it can be used for good or evil. It can also be about the state of the human condition - is our future utopian or dystopian with advancing technology

To conclude our unit on Sci-Fi short stories, you will write your own short science fiction story based on what you've learned from your readings and your notes on Sci-Fi from class. Remember, Sci-Fi is supposed to provide social commentary—a critique or observation about the world we live in. For this assignment, you should think of a problem you see in society (i.e. overdependence on technology, like in “The Veldt”) and write a story that explores this problem within the bounds of Sci-Fi as you have learned during this unit.

**Due Date: MONDAY OCTOBER 12****GUIDELINES:**

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 pages double-spaced (1000 to 1200 words)--MUST stay in range!

\_\_\_\_\_ Keep within the genre of Sci-Fi (see Elements of Science Fiction)

\_\_\_\_\_ Create your own original story with your own title

**- Characters**

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**- Setting**

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**- Conflict**

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**- Rising Action**

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- Climax

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- Resolution

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- Theme

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### WRITING SCHEDULE

8A	8B
Day 4: Thursday: October 1st Basic Outline	Day 5: Friday: October 2nd Basic Outline and Type "exposition"
Day 5: Friday: October 2nd Type "exposition"	Day 6: Monday: October 5th Type "rising action"
Day 1: Tuesday: October 6th Type "rising action"	Day 1: Tuesday: October 6th Type "climax" & "resolution"
Day 2: Wednesday: October 7th Type "climax" & "resolution"	Day 2: Wednesday: October 7th Create a title, Edit & Revise
Day 4: Friday: October 9th Create a title, Edit & Revise	Day 5: Monday: October 12th Print, Present & Submit
Day 5: Monday: October 12th Print, Present & Submit	

Useful link as starting point > <http://www.wikihow.com/Write-Science-Fiction> <