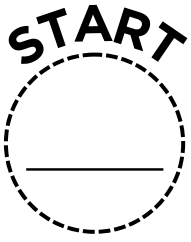


ROADMAP

But what do we write about? Your mind is clear now – the possibilities are endless! To narrow things down a bit, we'll start with a roadmap.

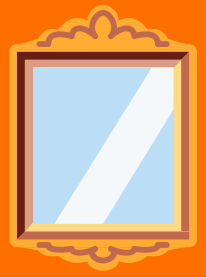
Take ten minutes to go through these steps:

1. Use the space below to draw out a road as windy and twisty as you'd like, then label the start with your birth year and the end with '2023'.
2. Now use this road to mark out the important events in your life, with writing or with illustrations. Keep them chronological.
3. If you run out of ideas, add detail to the ones you have.



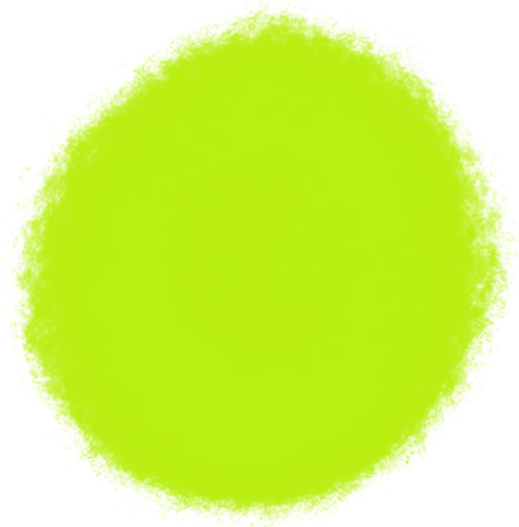
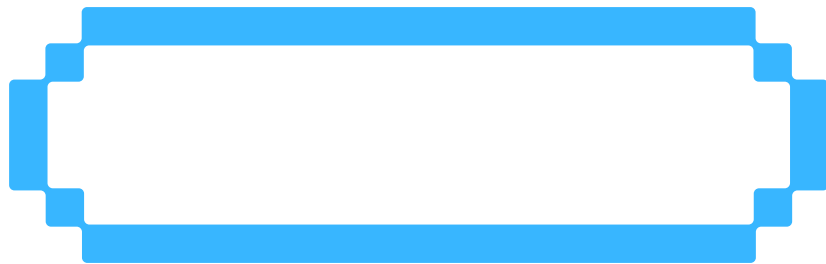
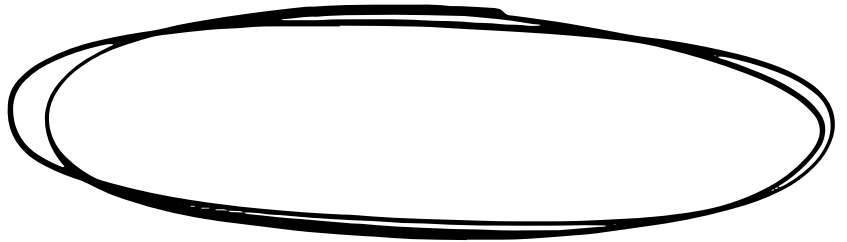
10 mins

ROADMAP - REFLECTION



Look back on your roadmap and circle the events that are 'unbreakable' in some way. Maybe without it, your life would be different; maybe it was a moment where you learnt something; maybe your memory of it will never change. Maybe you were unbreakable in that moment.

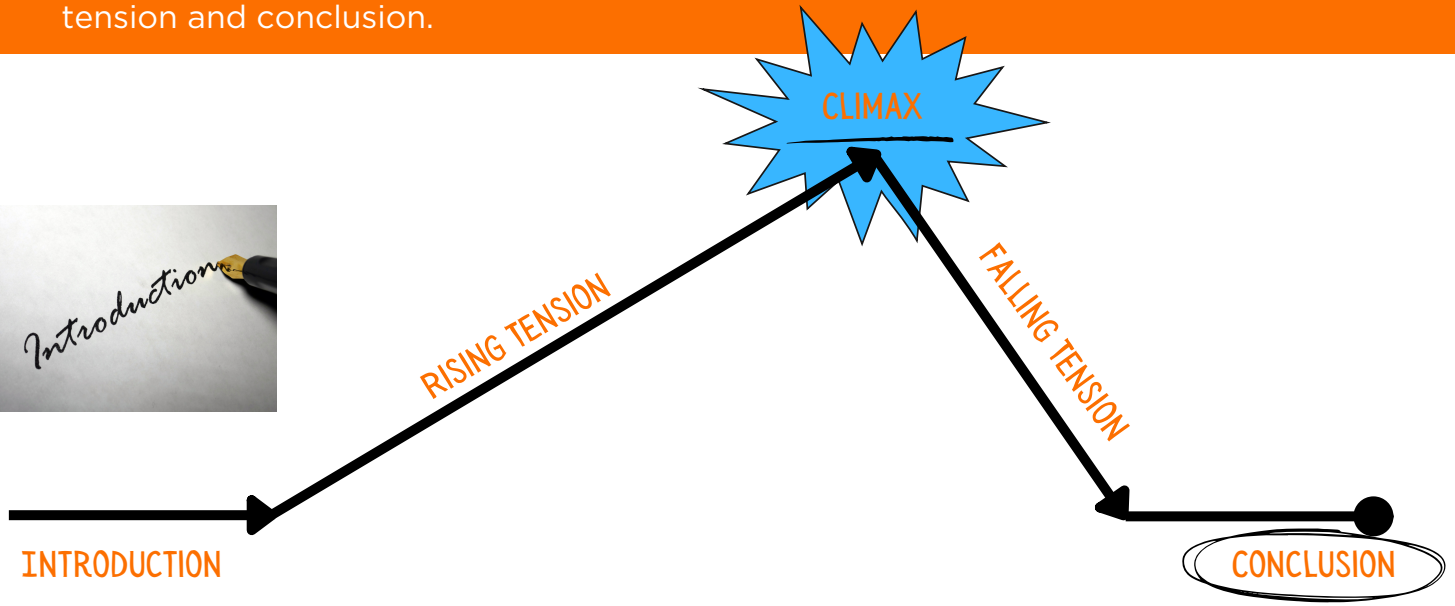
Write a **sentence** about what each circled event taught you.



5 mins

UNBREAKABLE STRUCTURE

With a roadmap and its most important elements laid out, you're ready to plan. Take a look at the narrative arc below and where the events of your life would sit along it. Then, fill out the sections on introduction, rising tension, climax, falling tension and conclusion.



INTRODUCTION

- _____
- _____

RISING TENSION

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

CLIMAX

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

FALLING TENSION

- _____
- _____

CONCLUSION

- _____
- _____

10 mins



Now expand each dot point you've written into a full sentence.

INTRODUCTION

RISING TENSION

CLIMAX

FALLING TENSION

CONCLUSION

Now that's a story! It's not ready yet, but the writers you see wouldn't be where they are without drafts. Lots and lots of them. Show your story to a friend or ask to swap stories. Ask them what was believable, and what they liked. Ask them what they didn't like.

Finally, return to your story and read it. Having asked someone else's opinion, you'll now see some spots you can improve upon. Soon enough, you'll have draft #2

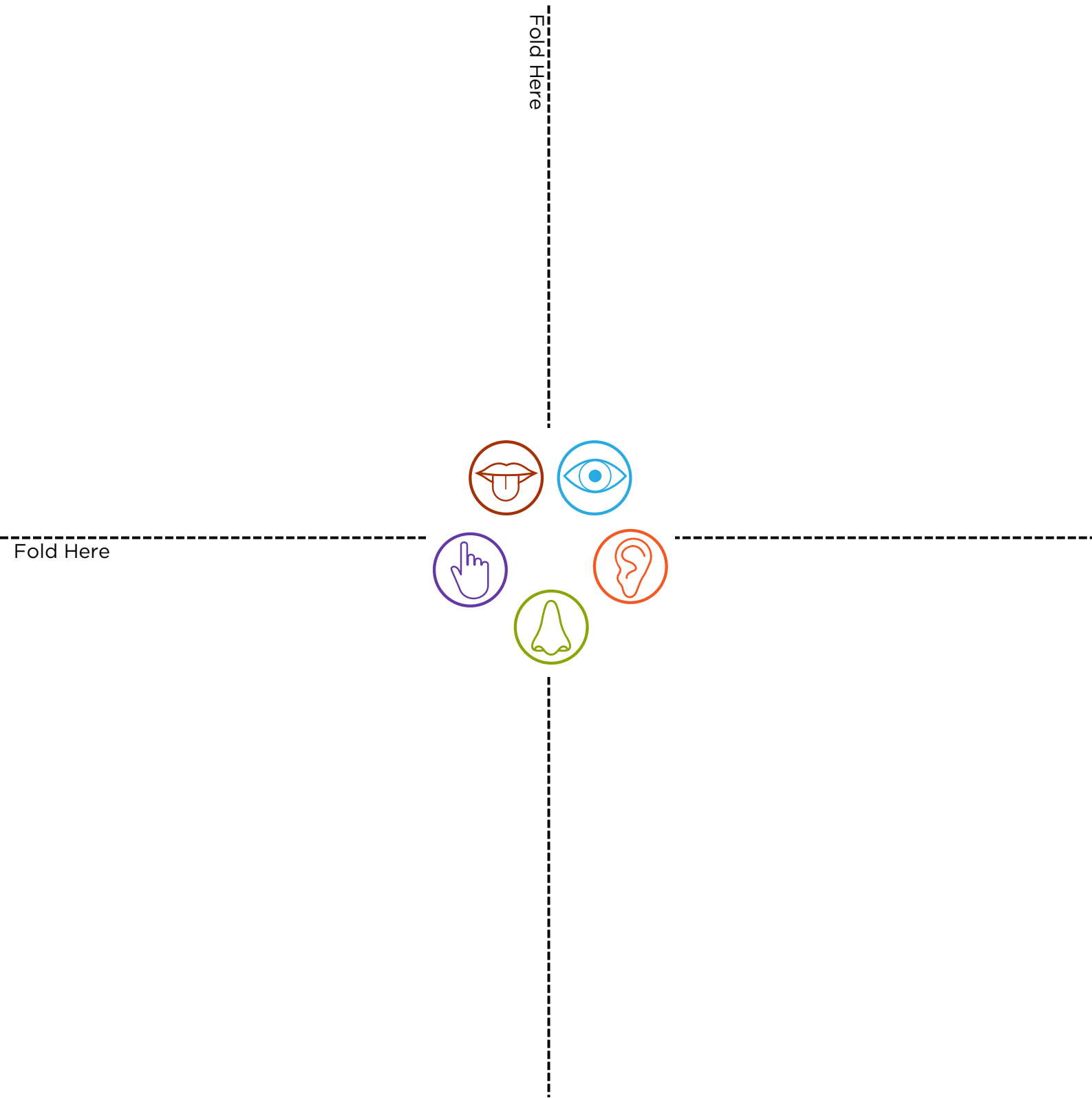


10 mins

DRAFTING TIPS: THE FOUR SENSES

To get a feel for your world, follow the steps below:

1. Fold your piece of paper into four sections.
2. Write one of the senses in each section – the four that you like best.
3. Choose a place in your story that you haven't explored yet.
4. Imagine you've been transported to that place in that moment, and let the world around you filter in. What are you seeing, smelling, feeling, hearing and tasting? Fill out your four sections accordingly.



DRAFTING TIPS:

DIALOGUE

Dialogue drives characterisation. With fleshed-out and complex characters who speak to each other authentically, your story will keep readers invested and wanting more. Each character needs their own style of dialogue, not only so they can be told apart but so that they stand out and invite interest.

Have a go at the following steps:

1. Find a spot in your story where people talk to each other, or where they could talk to each other. *Dad told me we had to go.*
2. Thinking about how the person talks, change the sentence into direct dialogue using quotation marks. *"Righto, every one of youse needs to get in the car now."*

