

Authors **manipulate time** to create mystery, tension, or surprise.

► Time is changed through **pacing** and **flashbacks**.

Methods	Characteristics	Example
<b>Fast Pacing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dialogue is summarized.</li> <li>Actions are summarized.</li> <li>Setting description is minimal.</li> <li>Portions of time are skipped.</li> </ul>	In <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> the narrator uses the journal to <b>quickly summarize his actions</b> salvaging the boat and its supplies starting in chapter five, resolving the <b>mystery</b> of how he survived.
<b>Slow Pacing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most dialogue is given.</li> <li>Setting is described in detail.</li> <li>Actions are described completely.</li> </ul>	In <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> the narrator describes his exploration of the <b>deserted island in great detail</b> in the first few chapters, showing <b>surprise</b> with each discovery.
<b>Flash-backs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show past events that explain more about a character or event.</li> <li>Can clarify unexplained emotions or unusual actions.</li> </ul>	The entire story of <i>Robinson Crusoe</i> is told as a flashback, reducing the <b>tension</b> created during the story with the knowledge that <b>he does survive in the end</b> .



Which shows fast pacing? Explain.

**A** Daniel ran to the library, grabbed three books, and hurried home. By evening, he had finished them all and started searching online for more titles by the same author.

**B** Daniel walked leisurely down Maple Street toward the library, enjoying the dappled sunlight filtering through the oak trees overhead. The familiar scent of old books greeted him as he pushed open the heavy wooden door. He spent nearly an hour browsing each shelf, carefully reading the summary of each book that caught his eye, before finally selecting one that seemed promising.

Which shows slow pacing? Explain.

**A** After Alice and Heinrich exchanged greetings, they started talking about their children.

**B** "It is quite a good morning," responded Heinrich as he gazed across the misty fields. The morning dew still clung to the long grass, creating a shimmering carpet that stretched to the horizon. "How are the children?" he asked, his voice carrying a hint of concern. "Sigmund is sick with a fever that started last night," she replied, wringing her hands in the worn fabric of her apron, "but well enough to sit up and take some broth this morning."

Which shows slow pacing? Explain.

**A** Alice remembered to bring her homework to class today. She is so relieved.

**B** As Ahmed walked through the crowded mall, his heart suddenly raced. He thought back to when he was six years old and had been lost in this same mall. He had panicked then, running frantically from store to store looking for his mother, tears streaming down his face. Now, even as a teenager, that memory still made him anxious in crowded places.

- 1 Read the question.
- 2 Read the text.
- 3 Analyze how the author manipulated time. (refer to effects created)

### ***How Much Land Does a Man Need by Leo Tolstoy (1886)***

<sup>1</sup>The younger sister was piqued, and in turn disparaged the life of a tradesman, and stood up for that of a peasant. <sup>2</sup>"I would not change my way of life for yours," said she. <sup>3</sup>"We may live roughly, but at least we are free from anxiety. <sup>4</sup>You live in better style than we do, but though you often earn more than you need, you are very likely to lose all you have. <sup>5</sup>We shall never grow rich, but we shall always have enough to eat."

<sup>6</sup>The elder sister said sneeringly "Enough? <sup>7</sup>Yes, if you like to share with the pigs and the calves! <sup>8</sup>What do you know of elegance or manners!

<sup>9</sup>However much your good man may slave; you will die as you are living-on a dung heap--and your children the same."

<sup>10</sup>The sisters finished their tea, chatted a while about dress, and then cleared away the tea-things and lay down to sleep

#### **1 What is the effect created by the slow pace? (Sentences 1 - 9)**

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#### **2 Why does the author change to fast pace? (Sentence 10)**

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*Ebenezer Scrooge is a bitter old man who dislikes Christmas. He is visited by a ghost who takes him back into his past.*

<sup>1</sup>"Good Heaven!" said Scrooge, "I was a boy here!"

<sup>2</sup>They walked along the road, Scrooge recognizing every gate, and post, and tree. <sup>3</sup>Some shaggy ponies now were seen trotting towards them with boys upon their backs. <sup>4</sup>All these boys were in great spirits. <sup>5</sup>Scrooge knew and named everyone. <sup>6</sup>Why was he filled with gladness when he heard them give each other Merry Christmas?

<sup>7</sup>What was merry Christmas to Scrooge? <sup>8</sup>What good had it ever done to him?

<sup>9</sup>"The school is not quite deserted," said the Ghost. <sup>10</sup>"A solitary child, neglected by his friends, is left there still." <sup>11</sup>Scrooge said he knew it. <sup>12</sup>And he sobbed.

#### **3 What is the flashback revealing about Scrooge's character?**

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**Skill Closure**

- 1 Read the question.
- 2 Read the text.
- 3 Analyze how the author manipulated time. (refer to effects created)

*Ebenezer Scrooge is a bitter old man who dislikes Christmas. He is visited by a ghost who takes him back into his past.*

<sup>1</sup>"I am here to-night to warn you, that you have yet a chance. <sup>2</sup>You will be haunted," resumed the Ghost, "by Three Spirits."

<sup>3</sup>"Without their visits," said the Ghost, "you cannot hope."

<sup>4</sup>"Expect the first to-morrow, when the bell tolls One."

<sup>5</sup>"Expect the second on the next night at the same hour. <sup>6</sup>The third upon the next night when the last stroke of Twelve has ceased to vibrate. <sup>7</sup>Look to see me no more; and look that, for your own sake, you remember what has passed between us!"

**How does the author manipulate time and what effect does it have?**

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**Concept Closure**

**Jes thinks that the ghost uses a flashback to warn Scrooge about his future. Do you agree? Explain.**

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**Summary Closure**

**What did you learn today about analyzing how authors manipulate time?**

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**Word Bank**

manipulate time  
fast pacing  
slow pacing  
flashback

**Read the passage. Then analyze how the author manipulated time to create an effect. Answer the question.**

As we walked on the beach, we marveled at the golden glow of the setting sun. The rays of light spread out from the horizon. Shades of gold, pink, orange, and purple tinged the clouds. Gradually the sun melted into the sea. The horizon became a golden halo along the crest of the sea. We felt enlivened by this radiant beauty.

**1. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?**

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While walking on the beach, we noticed the sun starting to set. Soon, the light was gone. The sea turned gray, and twilight arrived.

**2. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?**

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### Methods of Using Time

**Slow** Pacing-Detailed setting, actions, or dialog.

**Fast Pacing**-Summarized actions or dialog; basic setting.

**Flashbacks**-Past events that explain the present.



## Listening

**Listen** to the passage read aloud. Then identify the effect and method of time that is used to create it. Answer the question.

1. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?

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### Methods of Using Time

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**Reading**

**Read** the passage. Then identify the effect and method of time that is used to create it. Answer the question.

It was 20 years ago when Julia saw Jack for the last time. He worked for the CIA and often had secret projects to work on. They had just had a great weekend and started making plans to get married in October. Jack got a phone call. She could see it made him angry. "What's the matter?" she asked. "Oh, it's this new project," he said. "I have to go, and I don't know when I'll be back." Julia swallowed hard, kissed him, and said goodbye.

**1. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?**

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**Writing**

**Read the passage. Then write the effect and method of time that is used to create it. Answer the question.**

The house was dark. Only a small light filtered through the windows to the outside. Adam reached for the door. It was painted black, but it was unlocked. He opened it, and it creaked. He stopped, not wanting to alert anybody inside. Slowly, he entered the room. What he saw made him gasp in disbelief.

**1. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?**

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Adam saw a light on in the old house. He had to find out what was going on. So, he opened the front door.

**2. What effect did the author create, and what time method did he use?**

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