

WRITING A SYNOPSIS

STORY: _____

MAIN CHARACTER(S): _____

SYNOPSIS LENGTH: _____

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE
THING ABOUT YOUR MAIN
CHARACTER(S)?

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE
THING ABOUT YOUR WORLD?

WHAT INFORMATION DO YOU
NEED TO PROVIDE?

HOW CAN THE SYNOPSIS
INFORM THE READER
BEFORE THEY EVEN BEGIN
READING?

WHAT QUESTIONS DOES THE
SYNOPSIS POSE THE
READER?

WHAT DOES THE SYNOPSIS
PROMISE THE READER?

GENRE INDICATORS:

KEYWORDS:

WORDS OR PHRASES THAT
DESCRIBE THE MAIN
CHARACTER(S):

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LIST THE MAIN PLOT POINTS:

WHAT ARE THE BIG REVELATIONS?

HOW CAN YOU TEASE OR MISLEAD READERS ABOUT THESE REVELATIONS?

DO YOU NEED TO WARN THE READER ABOUT ANYTHING?

WHAT METHODS DO BOOKS IN YOUR GENRE EMPLOY IN THEIR SYNOPSES?

WHAT SORT OF READERS DO YOU WANT TO READ YOUR STORY?

WHAT WORDS / IDEAS / THEMES WOULD APPEAL TO THESE READERS?

WHAT STYLE OF WRITING WOULD APPEAL TO THESE READERS?

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Try writing a few drafts of your synopsis, using your answers on the previous pages as checklists.
You may also want to consider formatting; where to place paragraph breaks, what to emphasise, etc.

