



PARTICIPATORY STORIES

Memories of a young girl (9 – 10 age group)

Learning objectives

This story is made up of 5 worksheets that become more complex narratively as the children progress. As they move from one level (worksheet) to the next, the children will enrich the story of Simone de Beauvoir with adjectives (of aspect and character), verbs, adverbs (of manner and place), and work on direct speech with dialogues.

STORY BASE

Read the simple version of the story to children (the story base). Then have the pupils work in groups or in pairs to enrich the story base (starting from Level 1).

Simone was born into a middle-class family. As a child, she read many books. From an early age, Simone dreamt of becoming a writer. So, she began inventing endings to stories.

The little paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life came to an end with the First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a life of deprivation.

Her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married. Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in getting married.

She enrolled at the Sorbonne University. She began to take courses in literature and philosophy.

There she met the professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul asked her to marry him, but Simone refused.

Once she got her philosophy degree, Simone began to publish her first texts and became a writer. She used her quill to join the Resistance and to defend women's rights.

Simone and Jean-Paul traveled through Europe. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also essays.

Simone died at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried next to Jean-Paul's grave.

LEVEL 1: ADJECTIVES OF ASPECT (What are they like?)

Enrich the text with your pupils by adding adjectives of aspects. The words in slashes below are a few suggestions - depending on the level of progress of your class, decide how many adjectives you want to add in front of each of the target nouns.

Simone was born into a **loving / well-off / united** middle-class family. As a child, she read many **exciting / fascinating / complicated** books. From an early age, **the little / intelligent / young** Simone dreamt of becoming a **famous / renowned / successful** writer. So, she began inventing endings to stories.

The little **earthly / well-kept / family** paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life came to an end with the **terrible / inhuman / horrible** First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a **long / hard / sad** life of deprivation.

Overwhelmed / penniless / broke, her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married.

Thrilled / delighted / enthusiastic, Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in getting married.

She enrolled at the **well-known / prestigious** Sorbonne University. She began to take **exciting / intense** courses in literature and philosophy.

There she met the **intriguing / famous / captivating** professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul, **amorous / charmed / courageous**, asked her to marry him, but Simone refused.

Once she had her philosophy degree, Simone began to publish her first texts and became a **famous / well-known / successful** writer. She used her quill to join the Resistance and to defend women's rights.

Simone and Jean-Paul traveled through Europe. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also **serious / philosophical** essays.

Simone died at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried next to Jean-Paul's grave.

LEVEL 2: VERBS (What are they doing?)

Enrich the text with your pupils using verbs. Write them down and read them at the same time as the aspect adjectives you have already written for the level 1 worksheet.

Simone was born into a **loving / well-off / united** middle-class family. As a child, she read many **exciting / fascinating / complicated** books. From an early age, **the little / intelligent / young** Simone dreamt of becoming a **famous / renowned / successful** writer. So, she began inventing endings to stories **and wrote new stories / and changed the course of the narration.**

The little **earthly / well-kept / family** paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life came to an end with the **terrible / inhuman / horrible** First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a **long / hard / sad** life of deprivation **and must change her habits / and her family must move.**

Overwhelmed / penniless / broke, her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married.

Thrilled / delighted / enthusiastic, Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in getting married **and wanted to remain free.**

She enrolled at the **well-known / prestigious** Sorbonne University. She began to take **exciting / intense** courses in literature and philosophy **and worked hard / and studied every night**. There she met the **intriguing / famous / captivating** professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul, **amorous / charmed / courageous**, asked her to marry him, but Simone refused.

Once she had her philosophy degree, Simone began to publish her first texts and became a **famous / well-known / successful** writer. She used her quill to join the Resistance and to defend women's rights.

Simone and Jean-Paul travelled through Europe **and they met famous people / and they continued to write**. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also **serious / philosophical** essays.

Simone died at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried next to Jean-Paul's grave.

LEVEL 3: ADVERBS OF MANNER (How do they do it?)

Enrich the text with words that indicate how the characters' actions are being done. Write them down and read them along with the adjectives of aspect and verbs, which you have already written for the

level 2 and level 1 worksheets. The words suggested in green are options that you can guide your pupils towards, but their answers are allowed to vary to express their imagination.

Simone was born into a **loving / well-off / united** middle-class family. As a child, she read many **exciting / fascinating / complicated** books. From an early age, **the little / intelligent / young** Simone dreamt of becoming a **famous / renowned / successful** writer. So, she began inventing endings to stories **and wrote new stories / and changed the course of the narration.**

The little **earthly / well-kept / family** paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life **suddenly / abruptly / unhappily** came to an end with the **terrible / inhuman / horrible** First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a **long / hard / sad** life of deprivation **and must change her habits / and her family must move.**

Overwhelmed / penniless / broke, her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married.

Thrilled / delighted / enthusiastic, Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in **hurriedly / desperately / accidentally** getting married **and wanted to remain free.**

She enrolled at the **well-known / prestigious** Sorbonne University. She began to take **exciting / intense** courses in literature and philosophy **and worked hard / and studied every night**. There she met the **intriguing / famous / captivating** professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul, **amorous / charmed / courageous**, asked her to marry him, but Simone **firmly / immediately / categorically** refused.

Once she had her philosophy degree, Simone **quickly / enthusiastically / clumsily** began to publish her first texts and became a **famous / well-known / successful** writer. She used her quill **intelligently / secretly / actively** to join the Resistance and to **publicly / relentlessly / bravely** defend women's rights.

Simone and Jean-Paul traveled **often / a lot / for a long time** through Europe **and they met famous people / and they continued to write**. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also **serious / philosophical** essays.

Simone died **peacefully / sadly / famously** at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried next to Jean-Paul's grave.

LEVEL 4: DIALOGUES (What do they say?)

Enrich the text with words that indicate what the characters are saying. Write them down and read them along with the adjectives of aspect, verbs and adverbs, which you have already written for the worksheets in levels 3, 2 and 1. The suggested words are options for explaining the concept to the pupils, who can then follow their own imagination. The adverbs can respect the truths of the story or suggest the opposite.

Simone was born into a **loving / well-off / united** middle-class family. As a child, she read many **exciting / fascinating / complicated** books. From an early age, **the little / intelligent / young** Simone dreamt of becoming a **famous / renowned / successful** writer, **saying "one day I will live from my books"**. So, she invented endings to stories **and wrote new stories / and changed the course of the narration**.

The little **earthly / well-kept / family** paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life came to a **sudden / abrupt / unhappy** end with the **terrible / inhuman / horrible** First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a **long / hard / sad** life of deprivation **and must change her habits / and her family must move**.

Overwhelmed / penniless / broke, her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married. So, he tells them: "It's important that you get an education because you'll have to work when you grow up."

Thrilled / delighted / enthusiastic, Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in **hurriedly / desperately / accidentally** getting married **and wanted to remain free**. She promises herself: "I will never marry."

She enrolled at the **well-known / prestigious** Sorbonne University. She began to take **exciting / intense** courses in literature and philosophy **and worked hard / and studied every night**. There she met the **intriguing / famous / captivating** professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul, **amorous / charmed / courageous**, asked her to marry him, but Simone **firmly / immediately / categorically** refused. She replied: "Marriage would deprive me of the freedom to choose who I want to be".

Once she had her philosophy degree, Simone **quickly / enthusiastically / clumsily** began to publish her first texts and became a **famous / well-known / successful** writer. She used her quill **intelligently / secretly / actively** to join the Resistance and to **publicly / relentlessly / bravely** defend women's rights.

Simone and Jean-Paul traveled **often / a lot / for a long time** through Europe **and they met famous people / and they continued to write**. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also **serious / philosophical** essays.

Simone died **peacefully / sadly / famously** at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried next to Jean-Paul's grave. **During her lifetime, she had said: "I am happy to have spent my life by his side."**

LEVEL 5: PREPOSITIONS OF PLACES (Where does the story take place?)

Enrich the text with words that indicate where the actions take place. Write them down and read them along with the adjectives of character and aspect, verbs, adverbs and dialogues, which you have already written for the worksheets in levels 4, 3, 2 and 1. The words in pink are options for explaining the concept to the pupils, who can then follow their own imagination. The adverbs can respect the truths of the story or suggest the opposite.

Simone was born into a **loving / well-off / united** middle-class family **in Paris / in a village / on a tree**. As a child, she read many **exciting / fascinating / complicated** books. From an early age, **the little / intelligent / young** Simone dreamt of becoming a **famous / renowned / successful** writer, **saying "one day I will live from my books"**. So, she invented endings to stories **and wrote new stories / and changed the course of the narration**.

The little **earthly / well-kept / family** paradise in which Simone spent the first years of her life came to a **sudden / abrupt / unhappy** end with the **terrible / inhuman / horrible** First World War and her grandfather's bankruptcy. She was forced into a **long / hard / sad** life of deprivation **and must change her habits / and her family must move**.

Overwhelmed / penniless / broke, her father couldn't give her and her sister a dowry to get married. So, he tells them: **"It's important that you get an education because you'll have to work when you grow up."**

Thrilled / delighted / enthusiastic, Simone liked the idea of being independent and being able to choose what she wants. She was not interested in **hurriedly / desperately / accidentally** getting married **and wanted to remain free**. **She promises herself: "I will never marry."**

She enrolled at the **well-known / prestigious** Sorbonne University **in the heart of Paris / in the capital**. There she began to take **exciting / intense** courses in literature and philosophy **and worked hard / and studied every night**. There she met the **intriguing / famous / captivating** professor Jean-Paul Sartre. They began dating, and after a while Jean-Paul, **amorous / charmed / courageous**, asked her to marry him, but Simone **firmly / immediately / categorically** refused. **She replied: "Marriage would deprive me of the freedom to choose who I want to be".**

Once she had her philosophy degree, Simone **quickly / enthusiastically / clumsily** began to publish her first texts and became a **famous / well-known / successful** writer **in France / in Europe**. She used her quill **intelligently / secretly / actively** to join the Resistance and to **publicly / relentlessly / bravely** defend women's rights **in the streets / from secret rooms**.

Simone and Jean-Paul traveled **often / a lot / for a long time** through Europe **and they met famous people / and they continued to write**. She wrote not only short stories and novels, but also **serious / philosophical** essays.

Simone died **peacefully / sadly / famously** at the age of seventy-eight. She is buried **in the Montparnasse cemetery / under a hill**, next to Jean-Paul's grave. **During her lifetime, she had said: "I am happy to have spent my life by his side."**