

The majority of our leading actors and actresses ride, and for the most part, with characteristic love of high quality and distinctive appearance, the New Hudsons.

Writing the story

Right, that's enough notes, you need to stop now, or you won't have any energy for writing the story.

You just have to decide one more thing and it's called Point of View. Are you going to write in the first person: I went to the shops or the third person: she went to the shops? Whichever you choose, stay close to your main character and show us what she/he feels and experiences.

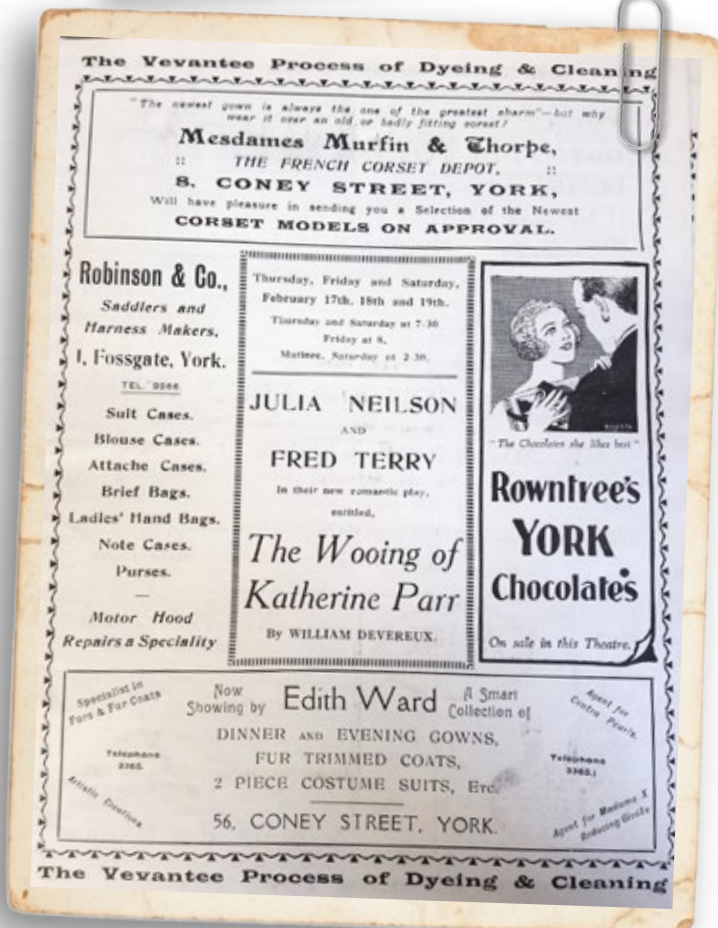
If you are stuck for an opening line you could use one of these:

Now I am back in London, my time in York seems far away....

Tuesday was the actors' afternoon off, so...

Fog gripped the city of York...

As she left the theatre, she couldn't decide which way to turn...



Now, start writing and don't take your pen off the page for at least ten minutes. This is a rough first draft of your story opening and you do not need to worry about spelling or punctuation. The urge to tell the story will be strong and you need to give in to it. There will be time to get it perfect in the second draft. If you get stuck, introduce a new character, turn a corner in the street, or open a door, something will come to you. **Keep asking yourself this question:**

what if?

Next Steps

After the first draft, you may only have a beginning. If you read it out to the class, or in a small group, ask the others what they think might happen next. This will help you, either because you agree with them or because you don't. Either way, it will help you decide the next part of your story.



Theatre Royal, York Programme
1908, J W Knowles Collection KNO/8/1

Carry on writing to the end of the first draft of your story and then go back over it, checking your spellings. It's good to try out new words, just look them up in a dictionary to be sure you've got the meaning and spelling correct.

Think about commas, full stops and how long or short each sentence will be. Sometimes you need to use very simple words and sometimes you will need to use more complicated ones. Check that you have a variety. Reading your work out loud will also help you know where the punctuation should go.

Re-draft your story until you are happy with it.
If you would like to share your story with us we'd be delighted to read it!