

# Short stories

# For sale: baby shoes, never worn.

- Is it a story?
- What can you find out about the people in the story?
- Where/when does this story take place?
- What does the audience have to do to understand it?
- Why do you think Hemingway thinks this was the best story he'd ever written?

# MINI SAGAS

Since 1988 the Telegraph newspaper has organized a 'mini saga' competition. A mini saga is a very short story and it was invented by the well known science-fiction writer Braian Aldiss. He was working on a very long novel at the time (three volumes) and he suddenly had the idea that it might be fun, as a complete contrast, to try to tell a whole story in just 50 words. The rules of the competition are simple. The text must be 50 words exactly and it must tell a story. The best stories are published each year in book form.

- [Saving Money](#)

- Michael Chang (China) 12th June, 2002.

- "I have saved 70 pence today" David said to his wife, excited and breathing deeply as he arrived home. "I followed the bus back and earned 70 pence for us." "You stupid fool, you should have followed a taxi! Don't you realise that you could have earned two pounds instead?"

# A fairytale ending (Charlotte Dawson)

- The wedding was great, the cake was awesome, a fairytale ending not after all, after the honeymoon I had to do all the housework. His feet up on the table watching TV and eating dinner. Was this the Prince Charming I married? Maybe it was better living with my step-sisters.

- Pity. Lisa (China), 12th June, 2002.
- A young man sat in a restaurant with a beautiful woman. This was an important day for him as he wanted to talk to her about his feelings. Another man came in and said to her, "Darling, sorry I'm late, let me introduce my son," pointing to the young man.