Avoid telling the reader what to feel, e.g. it was scary. Make them feel it through your descriptions.

Avoid telling the reader what a character feels, e.g. she was sad. Show how they feel through what they say or do, e.g. her lip trembled.

Don’t use too many characters. Develop a few.

Keep thinking ‘what would this person do/say?’

Develop the setting.

To create suspense, lull the reader into a false sense of security – get characters doing something pleasant and introduce an unexpected dilemma.

Know your ending so you don’t include irrelevant details.