



# Short Story Hack Worksheet

**Based on:** *7 Short Story Hacks for Instant Inspiration*

**Purpose:** Beat writer's block, spark ideas fast, and produce a complete short story draft in **5–15 minutes**.

## Hack 1 Worksheet: Rescue Stories with Everyday Objects

### Step 1 – Object Selection

Nearest object I can see right now:

### Step 2 – Secret Questions

Answer quickly. No overthinking.

- Who owns this object? \_\_\_\_\_
- What secret or power does it hide? \_\_\_\_\_
- What trouble does it bring? \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 3 – First Scene (5 sentences max)




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## Hack 2 Worksheet: Explode Characters with Contradictions

### Step 1 – Core Trait

Choose ONE dominant trait:

☐ Brave ☐ Liar ☐ Greedy ☐ Dreamer ☐ Loyal ☐ Fearful ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 2 – Shocking Contradiction

But they are ALSO: \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 3 – Conflict Trigger

Where do both traits clash?

**Mini Scene (4–6 lines):**

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## Hack 3 Worksheet: Dialogue-First Explosion Technique

### Step 1 – Shocking Opening Line (Dialogue Only)

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

### Step 2 – Immediate Reaction (Physical or Emotional)

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### Step 3 – Backward Build

Answer briefly:

- Who is speaking? \_\_\_\_\_
- Why now? \_\_\_\_\_
- What's at stake? \_\_\_\_\_

### Scene Expansion (Optional):

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## Hack 4 Worksheet: Image Explosion Method

### Step 1 – Image Description

What image are you using? (phone photo / memory / Pinterest)

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### Step 2 – 5-Sense Detonation

- **Sight:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Sound:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Smell:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Touch:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Taste (if any):** \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 3 – Emotional Twist

What emotion hits the character last? \_\_\_\_\_

### Paragraph Draft:

## Hack 5 Worksheet: 5-Minute Short Story Sprint

🕒 **Timer Rule:** Stop exactly at 5 minutes.

**One-Word Prompt:**

**Sprint Writing Space (No Editing!)**

**Reflection (After Timer Ends):**

- What surprised me? \_\_\_\_\_
- One line worth keeping: \_\_\_\_\_

## Hack 6 Worksheet: Ending-First Plotting

**Step 1 – Final Emotional Punch**

Circle one: ☐ Joy ☐ Regret ☐ Fear ☐ Relief ☐ Haunting ☐ Hope

**Step 2 – Write the Ending First (3–7 sentences)**

**Step 3 – Backward Path**

Minimum events needed to reach this ending:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Hack 7 Worksheet: Pakistani Folklore Fusion

### Step 1 – Folklore Element

Choose or write one:

☐ Jinn ☐ Pari ☐ Churail ☐ Heer–Ranjha ☐ Local Myth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Step 2 – Modern Setting

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### Step 3 – Cultural Flavor

Urdu / Punjabi / local phrase to include:

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

### Micro-Story Draft (6–8 lines):

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### Final 15-Minute Challenge: Launch Your Story

- ✓ Pick **ONE** hack only
- ✓ Write **75–150** words
- ✓ No editing today

Story Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Draft Space:

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### Reminder

You don't need permission to write well.  
You only need **momentum**.

**One hack. One timer. One story.**