**Appendix C: Story Structure Template**

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| **Step** | **Answers the question:** | **Story Spine** | **Notes for Your Story** |
| **Objective / Main message** | What do you want the audience to *think*, *feel*, or *do* as a result of hearing your story? |  |  |
| **Transition IN: (Hook)** | Why should I listen to this story? | I think the best example I’ve seen of that was . . . |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **CONTEXT** | Where and when did it take place? Who is the hero and what do they want? Other background needed to understand characters’ motivations? | Back in \_\_\_, at \_\_\_, there was \_\_\_\_, and they were trying to . . . (could be an unspoken objective) |  |
| **CHALLENGE** | What was the problem/opportunity? | Then, one day \_\_\_\_. |  |
| **CONFLICT** | What did they do about it? (Show the honest struggle between hero and villain, even if internal. Can’t be too easy.) | So they \_\_\_\_, and then they \_\_\_\_, and so they \_\_\_\_. |  |
| **RESOLUTION** | How did it turn out (for everyone)? (How are things/characters changed as a result?) | Eventually . . . |  |
| **Transition out:** | |  |  |
| **Lesson(s)** | What did you learn? | What I learned from that was . . . (That’s when I realized . . . That explains why . . . What I’ve since come to realize is . . . What I think we should have done was . . .) |  |
| **Reco Action(s)** | What do you think I should do? | And that’s why I think you should . . . |  |