1. "A short story is, or should be a simple thing. It aims at producing one, single, vivid effect; it has to seize the attention at the outset, and never relaxing, gather it together more and more until the climax is reached. The limits of human capacity to attend closely, therefore, sets the limit to it: it must explode and finish before interruption occurs or fatigue sets in." - H G Wells.

2. A short story is ‘a composition that requires from half an hour to one or two hours in its completion’. – E A Poe.

3. ‘A short story can be anything that the author decides it shall be’. 
Creative Writing

Fiction
• Stories not entirely factual but at least partially shaped, made up, imagined
• Relates to real life but not necessarily through ‘facts’
• Combines facts and fiction
• Three functions: A) pleasure B) Instruction C) Move

Non Fiction
• Stories entirely factual
• Real life events (facts) narrated imaginatively
• Strictly follows facts
• Ex. In Cold Blood (1965) By Truman Captoe
Moral:

- Three functions of Literature:
  i) to please
  ii) to move
  iii) to teach
- Not indispensable

Conflict: a soul of the story

- Between good and evil
- Could be external or internal; physical or psychological
- Between two persons, two ideas, two teams, .....