

Plot and Setting: Synthesizing Sources

CHAPTER OPENER

Chapter 1, Grade 10

Basic Parts of a Plot

- The Basic Situation (Exposition)
- Conflicts (internal and external)
- Complications (Problems)
- Climax
- Resolution (Denouement)



Situation or Setting

Explains

- The main idea
- The conflict and complications
- When and where the story takes place



Conflicts

These are the complications that the protagonist must overcome

- Can be internal where the character struggles with conflicting emotions, desires, or needs.
- Can be external where the character struggles against an outside force such as: another character, society, or something in nature

Complications

- Problems or confusions that occur in the story that prevent or hinder the protagonist from resolution
- Interesting plot twists that keep the reader interested



Climax

- The most exciting or suspenseful part of the story.
- This decides the outcome of the story

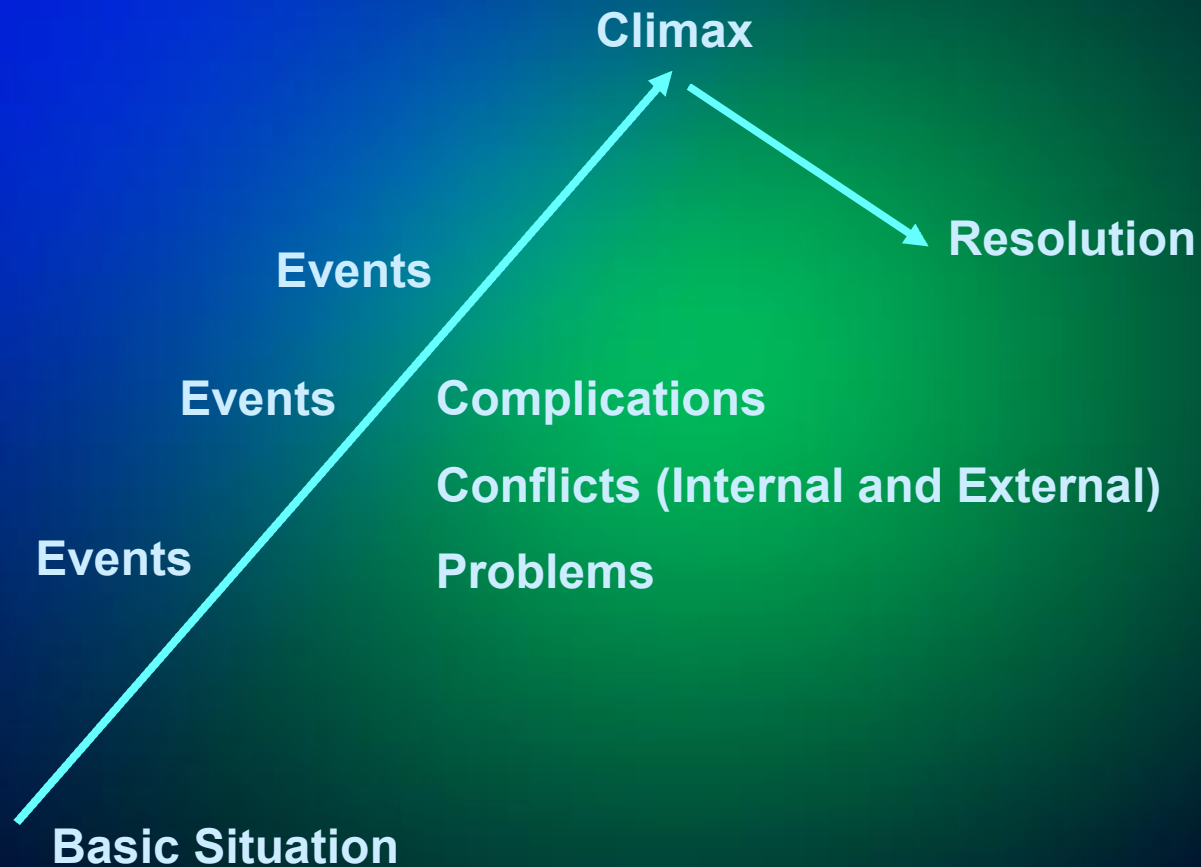


Resolution

Problems or conflicts are resolved and the story ends.



Plot Graph



Resources

- <http://www.learner.org/exhibits/literature/read/plot1.html> Annenberg Media explaining aspects of plot and aspects of literature
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/materials/plot-diagram/> Web site to have students create their own graphic for plot and include events.
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plot> Wikipedia site that explains parts of plot