


Fiction



LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF LITERATURE
Unit 1, Part 1, Grade 6

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Introducing Fiction

Think of an especially memorable film or television program that was fictional.




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Introducing Fiction

How would this work have changed if:

- one of the pivotal events had not happened?
- it had been set in a different time and place?
- one of the minor characters became the main character?



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Forms of Fiction


- **Short Stories**
 - works focused on a single idea with one or two main characters
- **Novellas**
 - very short novels
- **Novels**
 - much longer works that are focused several ideas and characters



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Presenting Plot


- Writers make plans for the framework of their story.
- This framework, called the **plot**, has a beginning, middle, and end.



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Presenting Plot

- The **plot** is the series of events in the story.
- The plot is built around a central **conflict**.
- The last part of the story tells how the conflict is resolved.



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Presenting Plot

Four Stages of Plot Development

- Exposition
- Rising Action
- Climax
- Falling Action



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Your Turn

What conflict is introduced in the passage?



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Presenting Character

- Brainstorm a list of well known fictional characters from novels, novellas, short stories, movies, and television.
- Are these major characters or minor characters?



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Presenting Character

- **Characters** are the people, animals, and imaginary creatures who take part in the action of a story.
- The action usually centers around the **main character**.



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Presenting Character

- **Minor characters** interact with the main character and help to move the plot along.
- Characters are revealed by their traits, or qualities.



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Your Turn

What details in the passage show that the character is "strong-willed"?



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Presenting Setting

What do you think is the most effective setting for a horror story and why?



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Presenting Setting

- The time and place in which a story occurs is called the **setting**.
- A writer's description helps the reader visualize the setting.



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Your Turn

- When and where does this story from the passage take place?
- What words or phrases describe the setting?



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Presenting Theme

- What are some important lessons you have learned about life?
- Lessons or messages such as these are often what authors of fiction present in their stories as themes.



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Presenting Theme

- **Themes** are the moral or meaning of a story.
- Most themes are not stated openly.
- They become apparent as the story unfolds.



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Your Turn

What do you think the theme is of the passage?



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