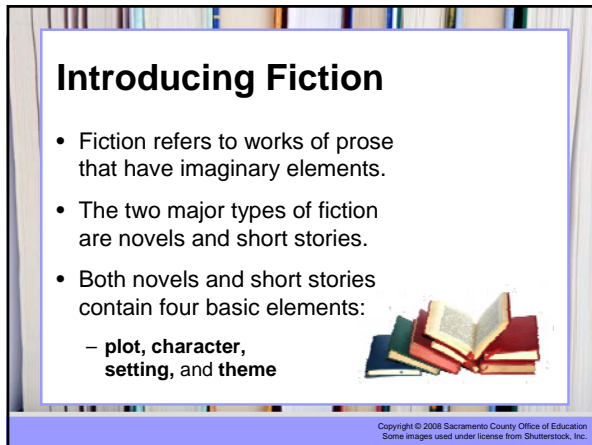


Fiction


LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF LITERATURE
Unit 1, Part 1, Grade 9

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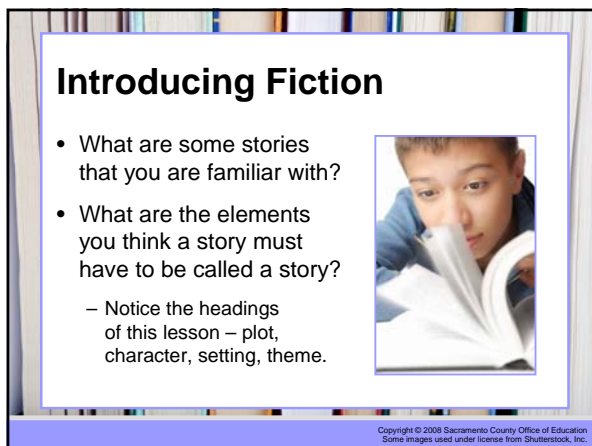


Introducing Fiction

- Fiction refers to works of prose that have imaginary elements.
- The two major types of fiction are novels and short stories.
- Both novels and short stories contain four basic elements:
 - **plot, character, setting, and theme**




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Introducing Fiction

- What are some stories that you are familiar with?
- What are the elements you think a story must have to be called a story?
 - Notice the headings of this lesson – plot, character, setting, theme.



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Presenting Plot

Plot at a Glance

Exposition

- Introduces characters and setting
- Establishes background
- Introduces conflict

Rising Action

- Introduces complications
- Builds suspense
- Intensifies the conflict

Climax

- Reveals the turning point of the story
- Reveals the moment when the hero or heroine confronts the antagonist
- Creates the moment of greatest tension
- Establishes the outcome of the story

Falling Action

- Resolves the conflict
- Shows the consequences of the climax

What are examples of each stage in the story "Plainswoman", beginning on page 8.

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Your Turn

Read the passage at the right of page 23, which is taken from the exposition of "Plainswoman."

- What potential conflict is introduced?
- Is there only one?

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Introducing Character

- *Dynamic* describes something changing or in motion.
- *Static* describes something not moving or at rest.

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Your Turn

What details in the passage at the top of page 24 give you clues to understanding the very different characters of Nora and Pleny?



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Introducing Setting

Recall key aspects of the setting of "Plainswoman".

- How important is setting to the story?
- How would the story be different if it were set in a different time and place?



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Your Turn

In the passage in the middle of page 24, what words and phrases help evoke the setting?



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Introducing Theme

- Themes are not stated directly but must be inferred from the story as a whole.
- What is the theme of "Plainswoman"?
 - Use the suggestions and clues provided in the lesson.

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