

Elements of Fiction

Study Guide

Fiction: imaginative stories created by an author, stories that are not true

Nonfiction: true literature that is based on fact. Types of nonfiction: a dictionary, encyclopedia, map, textbook, etc.

Setting: time period and location of your story

Theme: the central idea of the story

Plot: the storyline of your literature

Plot diagram:



Exposition: Beginning of story, when you learn the character and his/her traits

Rising Action: Learn your character's conflict and action starts building

Climax: most exciting point of the work

Falling Action: storyline starts to resolve, all storylines come together

Resolution: story resolves, main character will change in attitude or personality

Foreshadowing: author uses clues or hints to reveal what is coming later

Flashback: author describes something from the past to help explain important events

Types of Characters

Protagonist: is the main character of a story, a dynamic character.

Antagonist: opposes the protagonist, usually works against what the protagonist wants.

Main or major character: your story is about this character, could also be described as a dynamic character or the protagonist

Secondary or minor character: doesn't always change, not always in story as much as the protagonist, are usually static characters.

Dynamic character: one who changes in personality or attitude

Static character: one who shows little or no inner change

Characterization: the way the author reveals the characters personalities

Types of Point of view

1st person: when the character tells the story through thoughts, feelings, and dialogue. **I** felt sad yesterday...

2nd person: when the character says **you** often, and speaks to the reader or another character. Also, **how-to** books.

3rd person limited: **narrator** tells the story and knows the thoughts and feelings of only one character.

3rd person omniscient: **narrator** tells the story and knows the thoughts and feelings of all characters.

3rd person objective: **narrator** knows what is happening in the story, but **not** character's thoughts and feelings.