
Plot

Plot refers to the chain of related events that take place in a story. The events of a plot are usually set in motion by a **conflict**, or a struggle between or within characters. Most plots include four stages:

- the **exposition**, which provides needed background information and introduces characters, setting, and conflict
- the **rising action**, in which suspense builds because complications arise that make the conflict more difficult for the main characters to resolve
- the **climax**, or turning point of the action, when the reader's interest reaches its highest point
- the **falling action** or dénouement, in which the conflict is often resolved and loose ends are tied up

When you read a work of fiction or drama, use this plot diagram to classify events according to the plot stages in which they occur.

Title:

Author:

