

Plot Structure Reference Sheet

Climax:

The turning point of a story when the tension and conflict become most intense, and often when a significant change occurs

Rising Action:

The section of text that comes after the exposition, when the story begins to get complicated and the central conflict is introduced

Falling Action:

The part of the plot that comes directly after the climax when conflicts introduced earlier in the text begin to be resolved

Exposition:

The beginning of a story, in which the characters, setting, and context are introduced

Resolution:

The conclusion of the story, generally when the conflict is finally and fully settled