

Identifying the Elements of A Plot

Short Story Unit



Plot

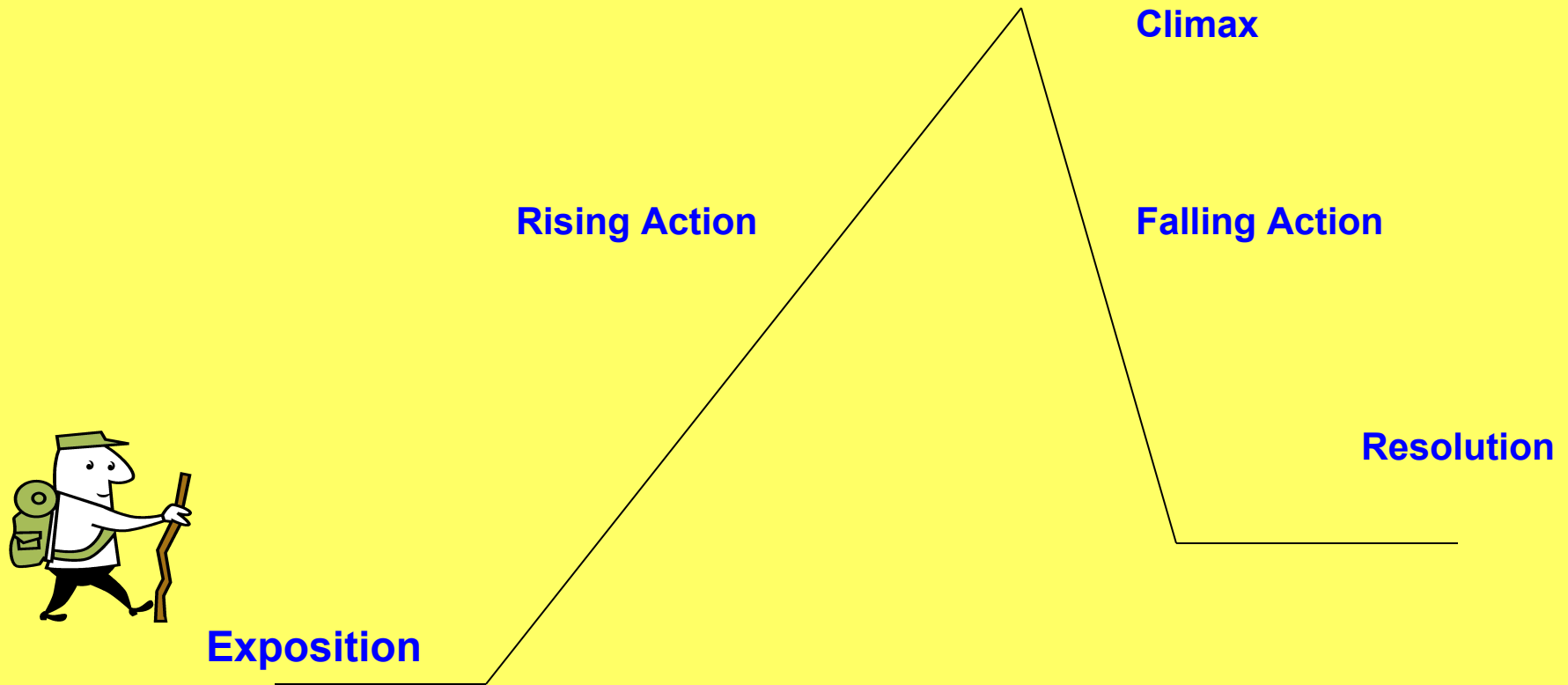
- Plot is the sequence of events in a story, novel, or play. Each event results from a previous event and causes the next event to happen



Plot Diagram

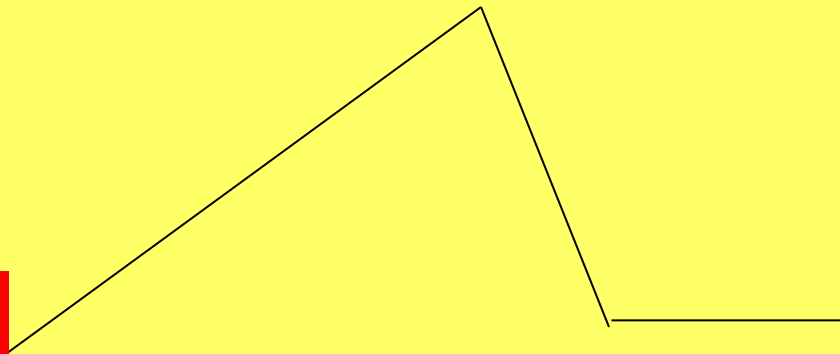
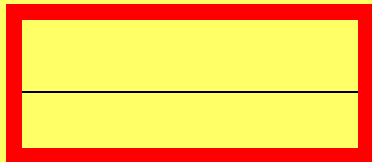


We use a plot diagram to map out the sequence of events in a story. It helps us to understand the plot.



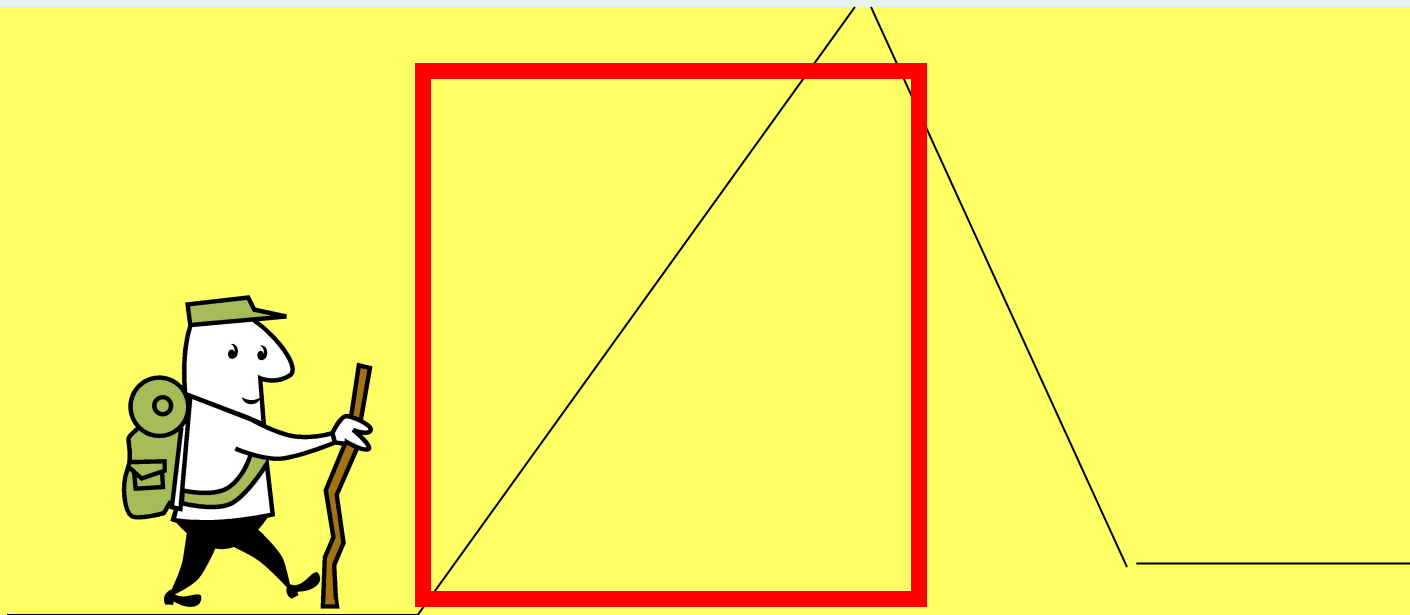
Exposition

- The beginning of a story which introduces the story's *characters* and *setting*
- Setting is the time and place in which the events of a story occur
- Characters can be the *protagonist* (main character, the hero) or *antagonist* (works against the main character, the villain)



Rising Action

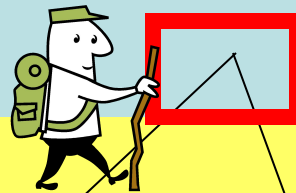
- This part of the plot that describes the problems in the story
- A conflict is the struggle between two opposing forces.
- The problem in the story is called the Conflict!



Climax

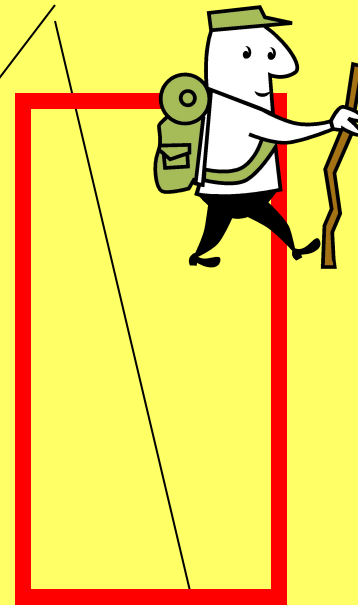
The point of greatest emotional intensity, interest, or suspense. It is the turning point in a story.

Things will never be the same!



Falling Action

- The action that follows the climax in the story
- The loose ends are tied up and the story decreases in intensity.



Resolution

The part of the plot that concludes the falling action and reveals the outcome of the conflict in the story.



The Language of a Short Story: Authors use *imagery* and *dialect* to express their plots.

- **Imagery** is language that appeals to the senses and help the reader see, hear, feel, smell, and taste the scenes described
- **Dialect** is a variation of language spoken by a particular group, often within a particular region

