

Elements of a Novel

Setting – Time and place of the story

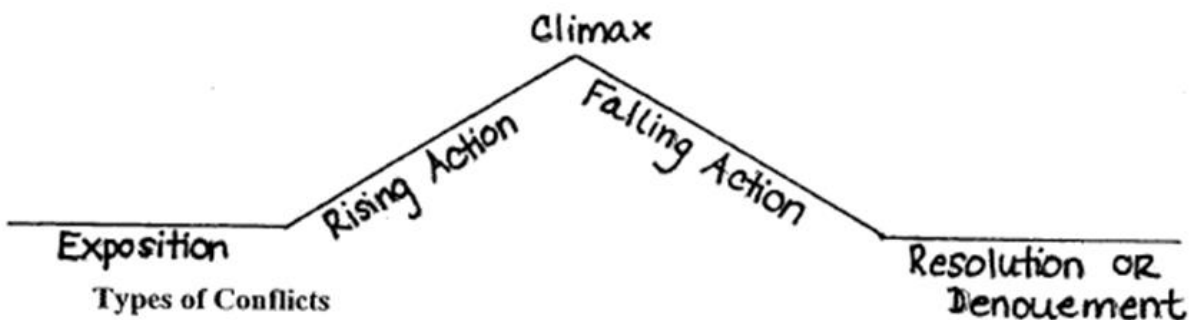
Characterization – Ways an author can reveal the personalities of the characters

1. Physical description of the character
2. Thoughts, speech, and actions of the character
3. Reactions of other characters
4. Directly telling the reader

Plot – Series of events in the story, usually based on conflict

Parts of the Plot

1. Exposition – Explanation of setting and characters
2. Rising Action – Problem or conflict is introduced and complications occur
3. Climax – Turning point of the novel in which the problem has solved or struggle ends
4. Falling Action – Events after the climax
5. Resolution – Events return to normal



Types of Conflicts

1. Person vs. self
2. Person vs. person
3. Person vs. nature
4. Person vs. society

Theme – Message about life or human nature that is conveyed by the author

- Sometimes themes are stated directly, but most of the time the reader must figure them out.
- Any lessons learned by the main character can be clues to the theme

Mood – Feeling that the author wants the reader to get

Examples: sadness, humor, suspense

Point of View – Each story is told from a particular point of view or perspective

1. First person – the narrator is a character in the story and uses pronouns like I, me, or we.
2. Third person – the narrator is outside the story and uses pronouns such as he, she, or they.