

Summer Reading Notes – English 9

A. Characters

List all major and minor characters and include a brief description of each (remember that characterization includes both physical traits and personality traits – note particular strengths and weaknesses of characters that are important to the plot)

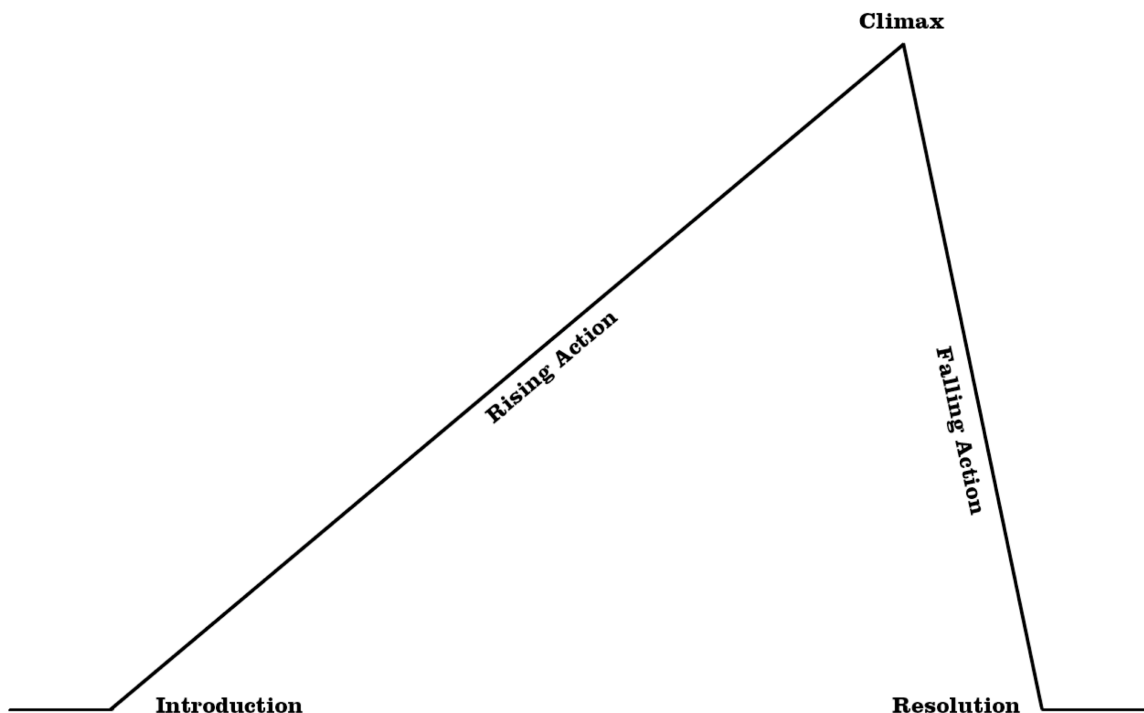
B. Setting

Note the setting of the work. Remember that setting includes place AND time, especially when significant to understanding the plot.

C. Plot

Note the major elements of the plot including exposition (any background information the author presents that is relevant to understanding the story), rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. You may want to represent this visually using a plot diagram:

Plot Diagram



D. Conflict

Note the major sources of conflict. Remember that conflict can be internal (within a character) or external (between a character and another character or any force outside of that character, i.e. a storm)

E. Theme

What is the theme of the work? Think of the theme as the reason the author wrote the work. What did he or she want to communicate? Some hints for finding the theme are analyzing the title of the work and examining how the central conflict is resolved.

F. Connections

What connections can you make to this work of literature? How does it relate to your life and/or experience? To what specific audience do you think this work may appeal?

G. Point of View

From what point of view is the story told? First person? Third person? How does the point of view color the novel – does the narrator provide insight or bias to the details of the plot? How would a different point of view change the novel or its meaning?