

Plot Structure Diagram

Name _____

Date _____

Period _____

CLIMAX

(The main event between the protagonist and the antagonist or the moment for which the reader has been waiting.)

⑤

RISING ACTION

(The major events that lead to the turning point.)

④

FALLING ACTION

(The major events that lead to the resolution.)

⑥

CHARACTERS*	
Protagonist and Main Character(s)	
Antagonist	
SETTING*	
Time	Place

①

②

CONFLICT*

(What's the problem between the protagonist and the antagonist?)

③

Title

Author

Genre

⑦

RESOLUTION

(How was the conflict solved?)

THEME

(The lesson or message the author is trying to help us understand.)

⑧

How To Figure Out the Theme

1. Actively read the text.
2. Fill out the Plot Structure Diagram (follow the circled numbers)
3. Examine the conflict, resolution and turning points.
4. Ask yourself, "What is the lesson the protagonist learned?"
5. Reword #4 so that it can apply to anyone who reads the story.

*Characters, Setting, Conflict and Mood (how the story makes you feel) combine to create the EXPOSITION which helps you "get into" the story, novel or movie from the very beginning.

*Consider using this plot map as an alternative structure.

