

## Elements of Fiction

Plot: The sequence of events in a story

Setting: The time and place in which a story occurs.

Exposition: Background information at the beginning of a story.

Rising Action: The events that lead to the climax.

Falling Action: The events that come after the climax.

Climax: The high point in the story. (or turning point)

Conflict: A clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills.

Types of conflict:

**Man vs. himself**: conflict involving internal struggle (with yourself)

**Man vs. man**: conflict involving people against each other

**Man vs. nature**: conflict involving animals, weather, the environment, disease, etc.

**Man vs. society**: conflict involving the community or what is accepted in society

**Man vs. machine**: conflict involving technology, robots, electricity

**Man vs. unknown**: conflict involving ghosts, aliens, or any unseen force

Resolution: The point at which the conflict(s) end(s).

Mood: the emotions you feel as a reader because of the atmosphere created by the author.

Theme: The central idea of a story; sometimes a message from the author, or a lesson.

## **TYPES OF CHARACTERS**

Protagonist: The main character of a story.

Antagonist: The character who struggles against the main character.

Round: A round character is anyone who has a complex personality; often has an inner conflict; can be described in many different ways.

Flat: A flat character is the opposite of a round character; he or she has one kind of personality and can be described on one way.

Dynamic: A character who changes or evolves over the course of the story.

Static: A character who does not change or evolve over the course of the story.