

The Parts of a Story:

1. **Plot** – a series of related events.

Each event needs to be interesting enough to “hook” the reader. A good plot creates curiosity in the reader so they want to read more.

2. **Conflict** – a struggle or a problem that needs to be resolved (fixed). Our amount of interest usually depends on the amount or depth of the conflict.

Two Types of Conflict:

- a. **External Conflict:**

Conflict that takes place between a character and another person, or between a character and something nonhuman (nature).

- b. **Internal Conflict:**

Conflict that takes place a character’s mind (a struggle with the inner “demons”).

The Elements of a Plot/ The Four Basic Parts:

1. **Exposition:** (The Basic Situation)

The beginning of a story where the characters and conflict are introduced and the setting.

2. **Complication:** (Conflict)

The part of the story where the main character is taking some action to resolve the conflict(s) and it’s unsuccessful. This causes more *problems* and complications, thus making the story more interesting.

3. **Climax:**

Point of highest emotion; turning point; the point at which the outcome of the conflict can be predicted.

4. **Resolution:** (Denouement)

Rounds out and concludes the action; struggles are over. The End!

- **Rising Action** - one (or more) characters in crisis. (It begins with the inciting force and ends with the climax.)
- **Falling Action** - resolution of character’s crisis. (The events after the climax which close the story.)

