**Study Guide: Narrative Story Elements**

**Setting: The time and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in which a story takes place.**

• Place – geographical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Where is the action of the story taking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

• Time – When is the story taking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ? (historical period, time of day, year, etc)

• Cultural/Social conditions – What is the daily life of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ like?

**Characters**

* **Protagonist:** The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ character.
* **Antagonist:** The person (or force) that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the main character.

Readers learn about characters in many ways:

• His/her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ appearance

• What he/she says, thinks, feels and dreams

• \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ What he/she does or does not do

• What others say about him/her and how others react to him/her

**Plot: The sequence of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ within a story**

There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ essential parts of plot:

1. **Exposition/Introduction**: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of the story where the characters and the setting is revealed.
2. **Rising Action**: The complication sets the events in motion. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_arises.
3. **Climax/Turning Point**: This is the most \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ part and the turning point of the story.
4. **Falling action**: The events and complications begin to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_themselves.
5. **Resolution:** This is the final \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the story.

**Conflict:** Any form of opposition that faces the\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**There are two types of conflict:**

* **External:** A struggle with a force \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one’s self.
* **Internal:**  A struggle \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one’s self; a character must make some decision, overcome pain, quiet his/her temper, resist an urge, etc.

**There are four kinds of conflict:**

• Man vs. Man (physical) – The leading character struggles physically with another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

• Man vs. Nature – The leading character struggles the forces of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

• Man vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (social) – The leading character struggles against ideas,- practices, or customs of other people.

• Man vs. Self (psychological) – The leading character struggles with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; with his/her own soul, ideas of right or wrong, physical limitations, choices, etc.

**Point of View (P.O.V.) is the perspective from which the story is told.**

**First Person:** The story is told by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or another character that interacts closely-with the protagonist (using first person pronouns “I”, “me”, “we”, etc). The-reader sees the story through this person’s eyes as he/she experiences it and only knows-what he/she knows or feels.

**Third Person:** The story is told using a narrator who is located \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the action of the story-and uses third person pronouns such as “he”, “she”, “his”, “her”, “they” etc.

**The third person point of view can be broken up into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ different types:**

1. *Omniscient* (all knowing): Using the third person-omniscient point of view the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can move from character to character, event to event,-having free access to the thoughts, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and motivations of any character and can-introduce information where and when he or she chooses.
2. *Limited:* The story is told by a third person narrator but from-the viewpoint of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the story, usually the main character or protagonist. The reader-has access to the thoughts and feelings of only o\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_character.

**Theme: The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the author is trying to share with his/her writing.**

Common Themes include:

* Things are not always as they seem
* Love is blind
* Believe in yourself
* Don’t judge a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by its cover