



Plot Structure

What is Narrative Text?

a NARRATIVE is a STORY

Parts of a Narrative Story (1 of 2)

- Character—a person in the story we learn about through their words, thoughts and actions
- Setting—time and place of story
- Problem or Conflict—the struggle in the story

Parts of a Narrative Story (2 of 2)

- Events—the things that take place in the story.
Rising Action/Climax/Falling Action
- Climax—the most intense part of the story, physically or emotionally
- Resolution—the conclusion, tying up all the loose ends, telling how it all ended up

Beginning, Middle and End

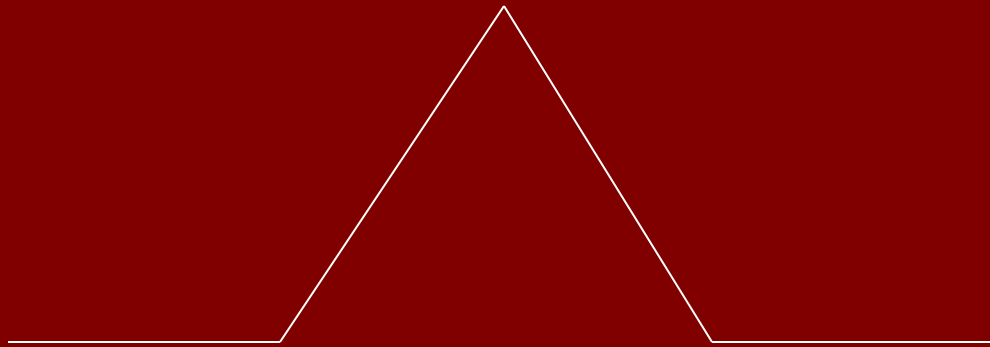
- Every story can be broken up into three parts: the beginning, the middle and the end.

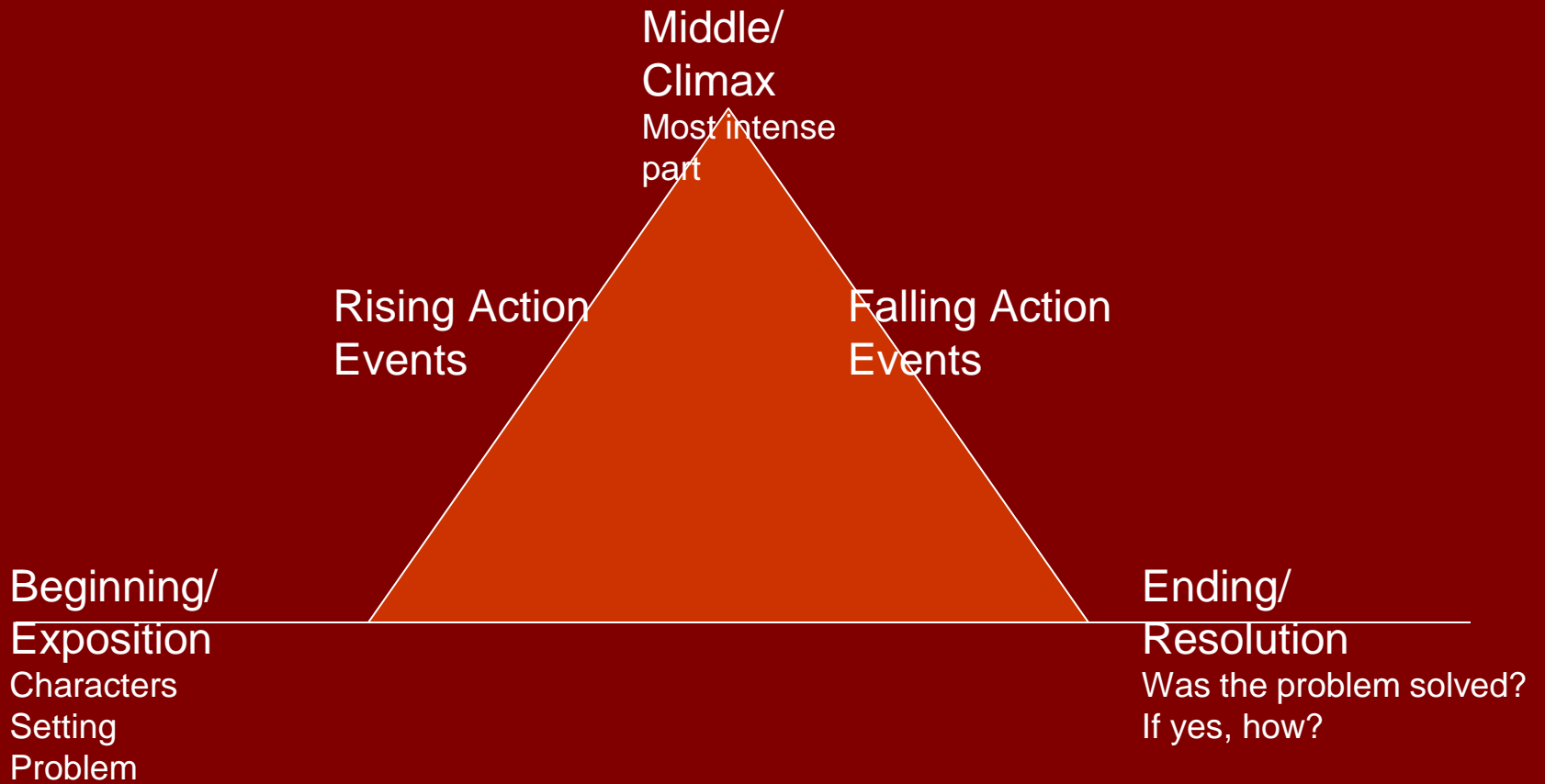
Beginning	Middle	End
Characters Setting Problem or Conflict	Events in the Rising Action Climax Event(s) in the Falling Action	Resolution or Conclusion



Plotting the Story on the Plot Pyramid

- Once you can determine the beginning, middle and end of the story as well as the characters, problem, climax and solution, you are ready to plot the story on a pyramid like the one below:





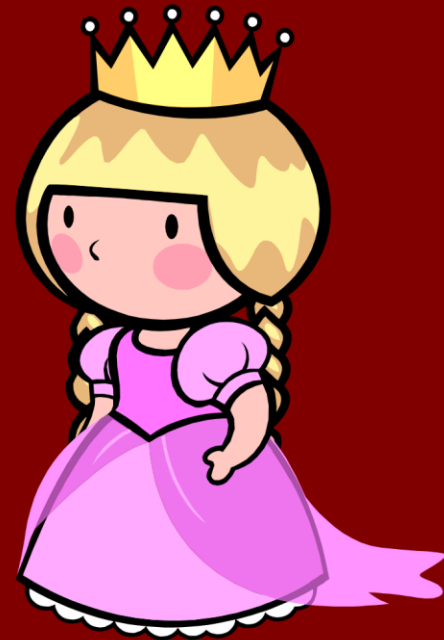
The Princess and the Pea

Once upon a time there was a prince who wanted to marry a princess; but she would have to be a real princess. He travelled all over the world to find one, but nowhere could he get what he wanted. There were princesses enough, but it was difficult to find out whether they were real ones. There was always something about them that was not as it should be. So he came home again and was sad, for he would have liked very much to have a real princess.

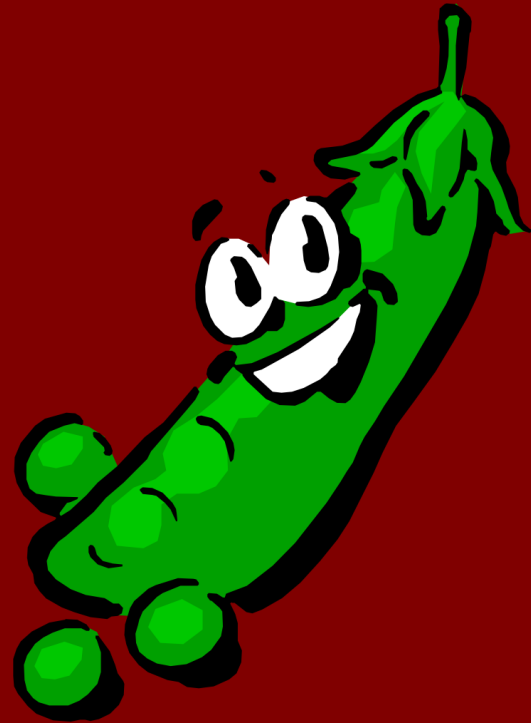


One evening a terrible storm came on; there was thunder and lightning, and the rain poured down in torrents. Suddenly a knocking was heard at the city gate, and the old king went to open it.

It was a princess standing out there in front of the gate. But, good gracious! what a sight the rain and the wind had made her look. The water ran down from her hair and clothes; it ran down into the toes of her shoes and out again at the heels. And yet she said that she was a real princess.

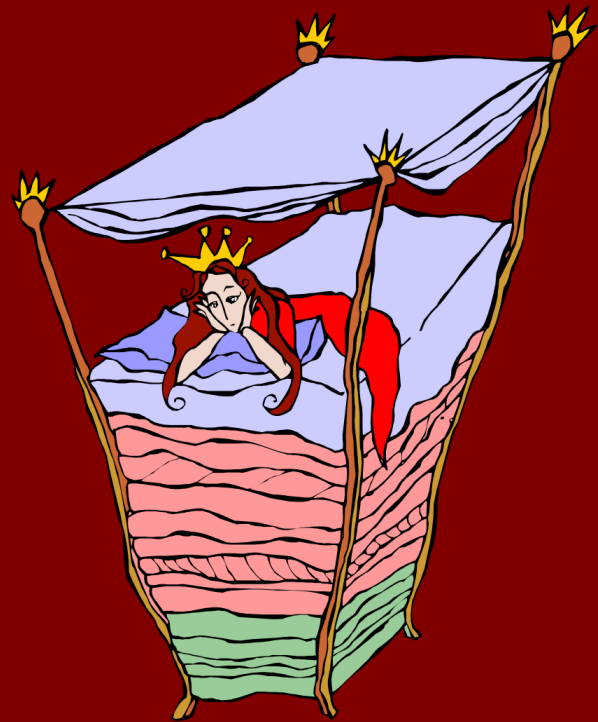


"Well, we'll soon find that out," thought the old queen. But she said nothing, went into the bedroom, took all the bedding off the bedstead, and laid a pea on the bottom; then she took twenty mattresses and laid them on the pea, and then twenty eider-down beds on top of the mattresses.



On this the princess had to lie all night. In the morning she was asked how she had slept.

"Oh, very badly!" said she. "I have scarcely closed my eyes all night. Heaven only knows what was in the bed, but I was lying on something hard, so that I am black and blue all over my body. It's horrible!"



Now they knew that she was a real princess because she had felt the pea right through the twenty mattresses and the twenty eider-down beds.

Nobody but a real princess could be as sensitive as that.

So the prince took her for his wife, for now he knew that he had a real princess; and the pea was put in the museum, where it may still be seen, if no one has stolen it.

