

PLOT:

The events that occur within a story. They are divided into the **beginning, middle** and **end**. Some novels have more than one plot. A plot is further divided into these parts:

- **INTRODUCTION:** The narrative (story) is introduced
- **INCITING INCIDENT:** The central problem (**conflict**) of the story is made clear
- **RISING ACTION:** Suspense is built while characters, setting and the story are developed
- **CLIMAX:** The high point of the story – the turning point
- **FALLING ACTION:** The events of the story following the climax and leading to the end
- **RESOLUTION:** The point when the central problem (**conflict**) is solved
- **CONCLUSION:** End of the story

SETTING:

The setting refers to **when** and **where** a story takes place. Often, stories (especially novels) have multiple settings. The setting is often used to help develop the story. (For example, in *Lord of the Flies* the island is used to represent the world while the boys represent society). The setting is also a tool that can help to develop the plot.

CHARACTERS:

A person involved within the narrative. This “person” can be a human being or something else that is given human qualities (**anthropomorphism**). The characters often develop as a result of the plot of a story and help to drive the **conflict**. There are several types of characters:

- **PROTAGONIST:** The central main character of a story – the one the audience is supposed to feel the most concern over
- **ANTAGONIST:** The character that the protagonist is in conflict with or must deal with
- **MAIN CHARACTER:** Characters that are central to the story and who develop as the plot develops.
- **SUPPORTING CHARACTER:** Characters that help in the development of the story though the plot does not revolve around their actions
- **MINOR CHARACTER:** A character added to the plot for realism or for an unimportant role
- **ROUND CHARACTER:** A character that significantly develops within the story and who can be described in detail
- **FLAT CHARACTER:** A character that does not significantly develop and who cannot be described in detail