

Plot – How does it work?

- 1.) **Exposition** – the part of the plot that provides background information and introduces the story’s setting, its conflict, and its main character or characters. It usually occurs at the beginning of a novel.

What is conflict?

Conflict – the struggle between opposing forces that is the basis of the plot of the story.

*****external conflicts** – conflict between two characters, a character and society, or a character and a force of nature.

*****internal conflicts** – when a character struggles within himself or herself, such as to make a decision.

- 2.) **Rising Action** – this is when the conflict in a story becomes obvious. Complications arise and suspense begins to build as the main characters struggle to resolve their problems.
- 3.) **Climax** – the turning point of a literary work. This is when the outcome of the conflict becomes clear. It may occur because of a decision the main character reaches or because of a discovery or an event. The climax usually results in a change in the characters or a solution to the problem.
- 4.) **Falling Action** – it shows the effects of the climax. The suspense is over, but the results of the decision or action that caused the climax are not yet fully worked out.
- 5.) **Resolution** – explains how the conflict is resolved and may answer the reader’s remaining questions pertaining to the plot.

Now that you know how the Plot works, you can summarize the plot of any literary work!

“The Hitchhiker” PLOT

1.) Exposition – “Background Information”

Setting –

Point of View –

Conflict(s) *Label each as external or internal* –

Main Character(s) –

2.) Rising Action – “Complications”

3.) Climax – “Outcome”

4.) Falling Action – “Effects”

5.) Resolution – “Conclusion”

Is there a resolution?

Name _____

Peer Evaluator _____



Scoring Guide

1. Is the conclusion easy to follow and focused on one main idea?

Teacher comments:

2. Is the role of the hitchhiker explained? What is that role?

Teacher comments:

3. Is the conclusion supported from previous examples in the radio play?

Teacher comments:

4. Does the conclusion solve any prior questions left unanswered? Has the writer ended Adam's traumatic travel experience?

Teacher comments:

5. Is your conclusion different than your partner's? How come everyone in the room will have a different conclusion to the same play?

Teacher comments:

6. Is your conclusion written in correct format?

Positive comments/Suggestions: