

# Module 5: Obstacles on the Road to Self-Discovery

## Topic 3 Content: Plot Points

### Introduction

The graphic is titled "Plot Points" and features a black background. On the left, the word "PLOT" is written vertically in large, colorful, stylized letters: 'P' is blue, 'L' is purple, 'O' is red, and 'T' is green. To the right of the text is a plot diagram consisting of four connected line segments: a blue horizontal line, a purple line rising to a peak, a red line falling to a trough, and a green horizontal line. Five circular markers with white plus signs are placed at key points: one on the blue line, one at the purple peak, one on the red line, one on the green line, and one in the top right corner. A white text box with a drop shadow is positioned over the purple peak, containing the text "Introduction" and "In this interactivity, click on the markers to learn about the parts of a plot."

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### Topic 3 Content: Plot Points

#### Exposition

**Plot Points**

**Exposition**

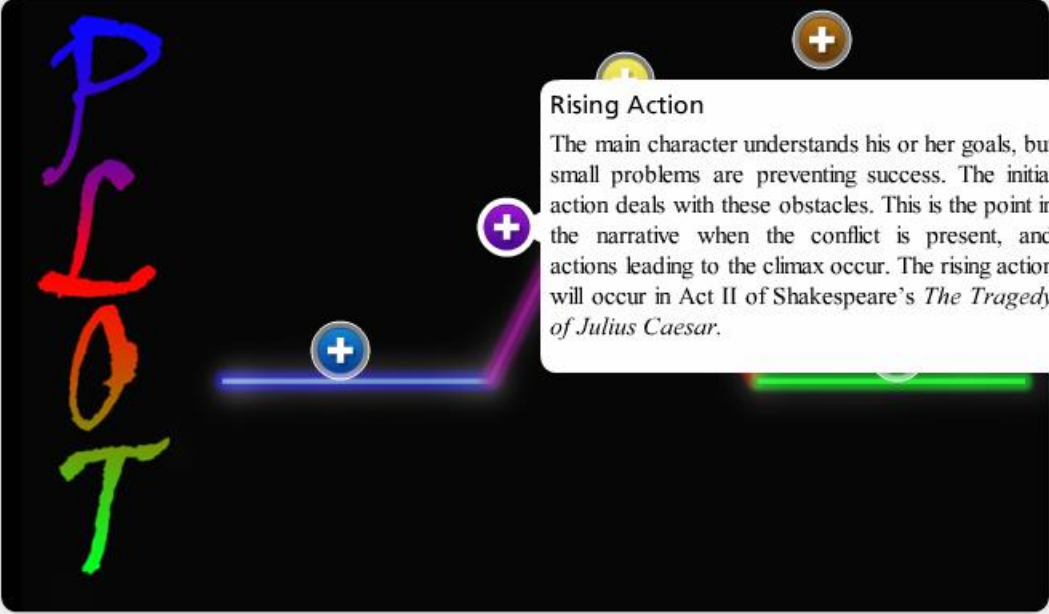
The exposition introduces the main character, other characters, and the setting of a story. This main character, or protagonist, has a goal and encounters obstacles or conflicts. The exposition will occur at the beginning of Act I in Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

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#### Rising Action



**Plot Points**

**Rising Action**

The main character understands his or her goals, but small problems are preventing success. The initial action deals with these obstacles. This is the point in the narrative when the conflict is present, and actions leading to the climax occur. The rising action will occur in Act II of Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

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#### Climax

**Plot Points**

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This is the turning point within the play. Within a tragedy, the state of affairs for the protagonist goes from good to bad. This is the apex of the conflict. It is when the protagonist's weaknesses are revealed. The protagonist has cleared away the preliminary obstacles and is ready to engage with his or her adversary, known as the antagonist. The climax will occur in Act III of William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

The diagram shows a plot line on a black background. The line starts with a blue horizontal segment, then rises to a yellow peak with a white plus sign, then falls to a red trough with a white plus sign, and finally levels off with a green horizontal segment with a white plus sign. There are also two brown plus signs in the upper right area. On the left, the letters 'LOT' are written in red, orange, and green respectively.

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#### Falling Action

**Plot Points**

**Falling Action**

This is when the conflict unravels between the protagonist and antagonist, and the protagonist either wins or loses against the antagonist. This phase leads to the resolution of the conflict. The falling action will occur in Act IV of William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

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#### Denouement

**Plot Points**

**Denouement**

Denouement, or resolution, is the final confrontation between the protagonist and the antagonist, when one or the other decisively wins. The conflict is resolved within this part of the play. Within a tragedy, the denouement/resolution usually ends in a catastrophe. The denouement will occur in Act V of William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*.

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