

Module 2: Short Stories
Topic 1 Content: Elements of Plot Notes

ELEMENTS OF PLOT

The majority of short stories follow a distinct plot pattern. In this interactivity, drag and drop the slider to learn more information about each element of plot.

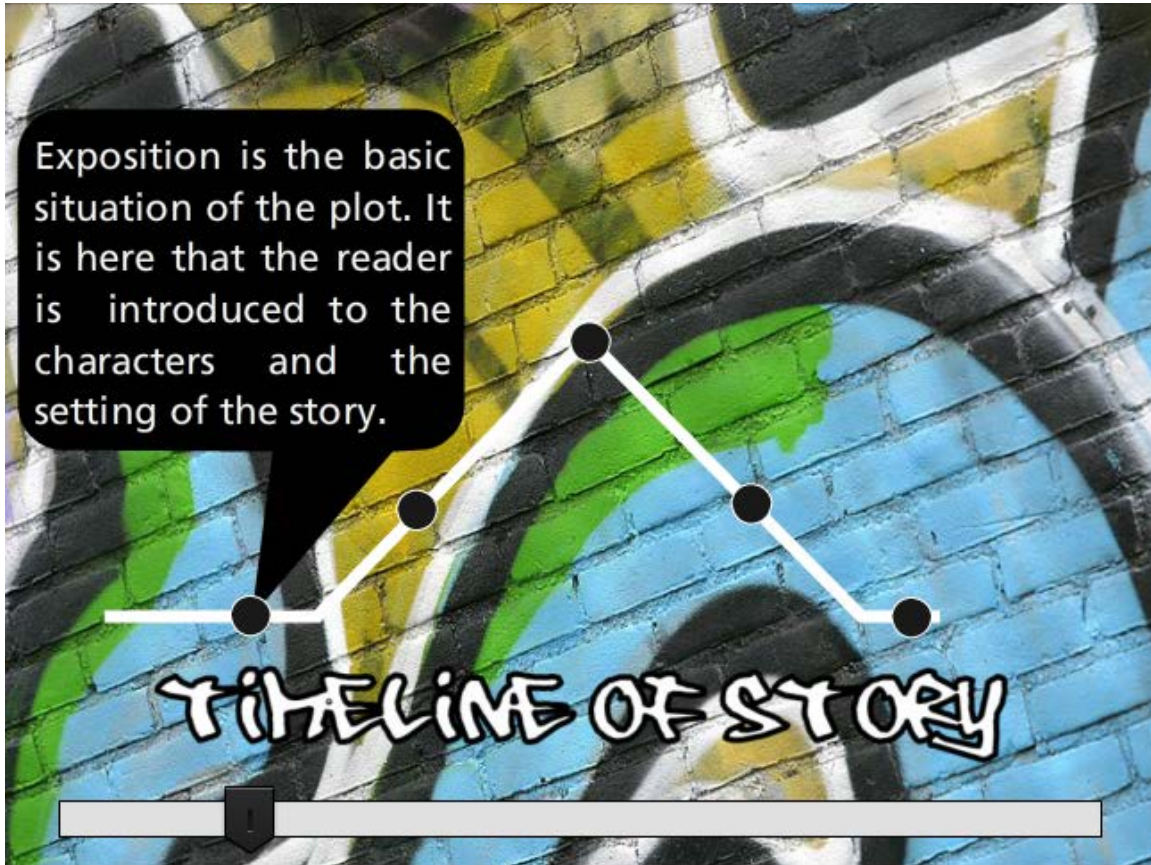
TIMELINE OF STORY

The graphic features a white line plot on a graffiti background. The plot starts with a horizontal line, rises to a peak, falls to a trough, and then rises again. A slider bar is located at the bottom of the graphic.

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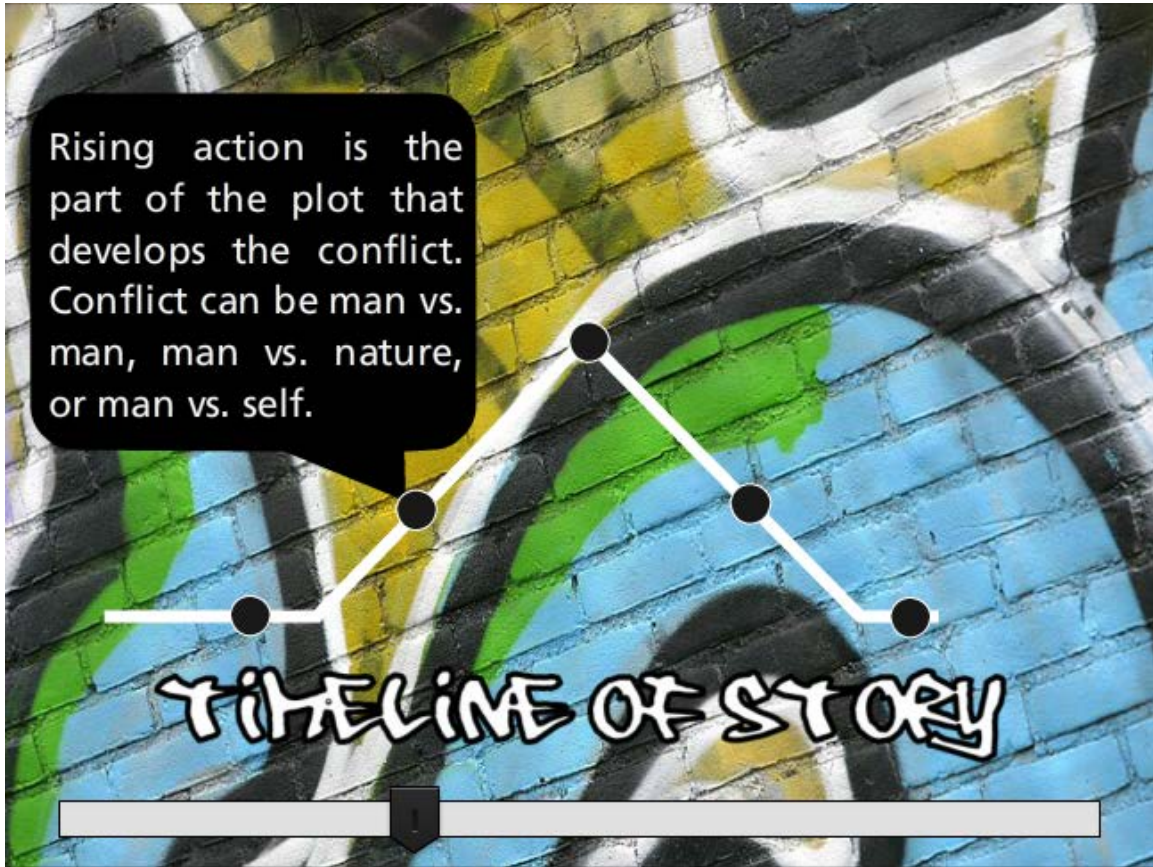
Exposition



Exposition is the basic situation of the plot. It is here that the reader is introduced to the characters and the setting of the story.

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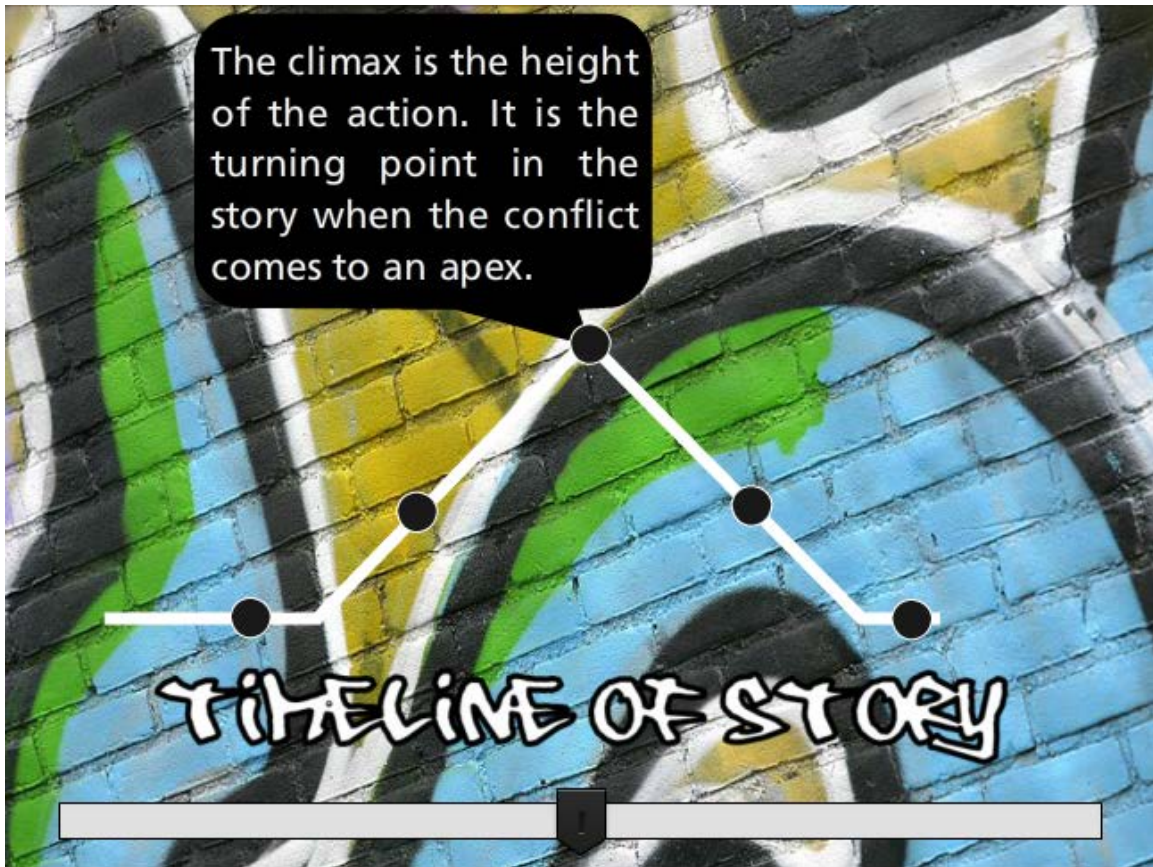
Rising Action



The rising action is the part of the plot that develops the conflict. Conflict can be categorized as man versus man, man versus nature, or man versus self.

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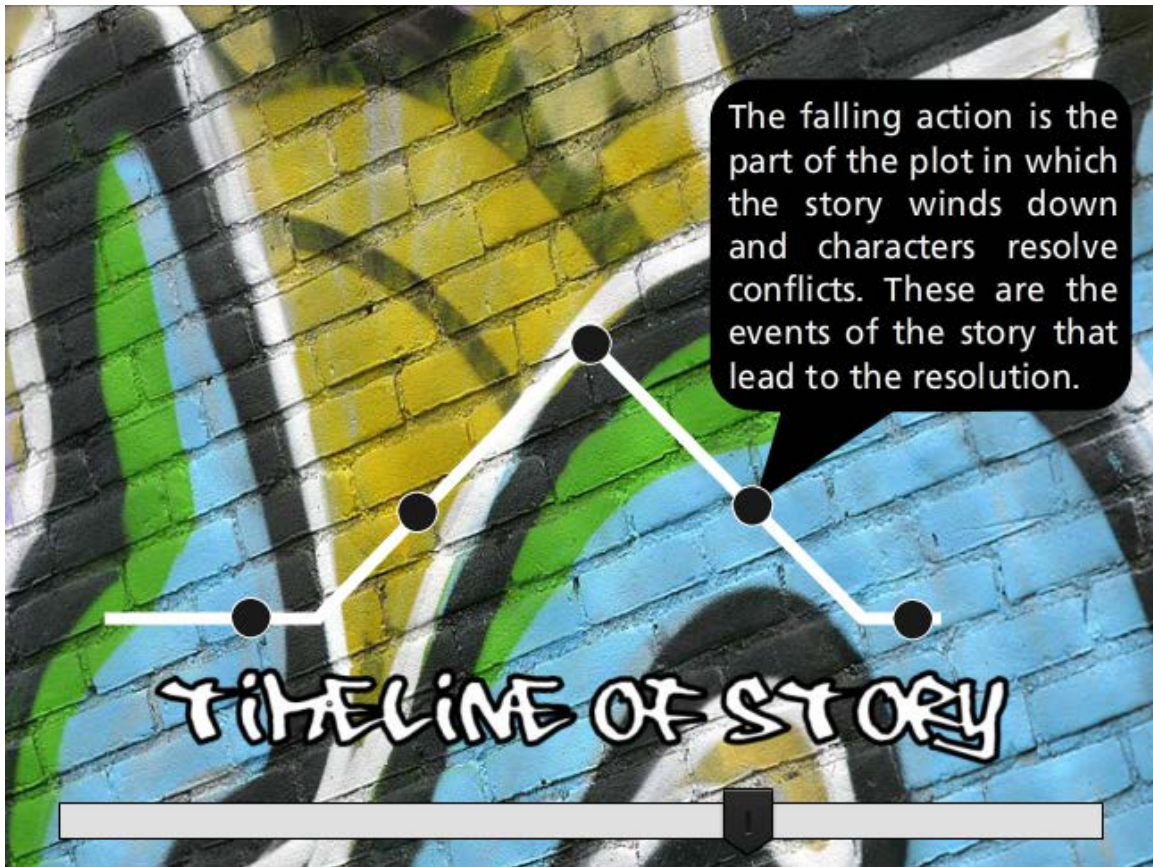
Climax



The climax is the height of the action. It is the turning point in the story when the conflict comes to an apex.

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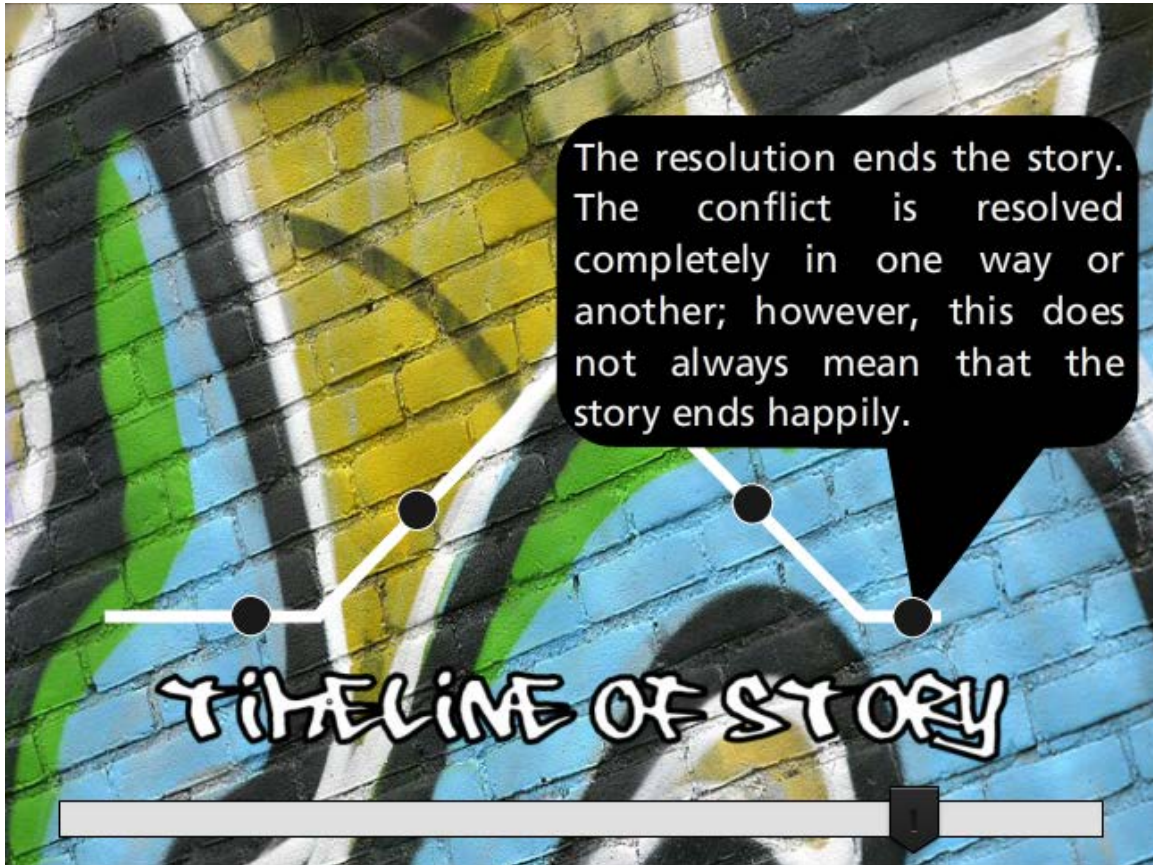
Falling Action



The falling action is the part of the plot in which the story winds down and characters resolve conflicts. These are the events of the story that lead to the resolution.

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Resolution



The resolution ends the story. The conflict is resolved completely in one way or another; however, this does not always mean that the story ends happily.

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