


Module 8: Drama – *Romeo and Juliet*
Topic 6 Content: Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Introduction

Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Introduction

Recall that a common plot structure for drama begins with the exposition, rises in action after a conflict or problem is introduced, and drastically changes direction when an important turning point occurs. In the final act of a tragedy, you will usually see three important plot elements unfold: the climax, the resolution, and catharsis. In this interactivity, click the vertical tabs to learn more about these three elements.



Climax

Resolution

Catharsis

Recall that a common plot structure for drama begins with the exposition, rises in action after a conflict or problem is introduced, and drastically changes direction when an important turning point occurs. In the final act of a tragedy, you will usually see three important plot elements unfold: the climax, the resolution, and catharsis. In this interactivity, click the vertical tabs to learn more about these three elements.

Module 8: Drama – *Romeo and Juliet*
Topic 6 Content: Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act


Climax

Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Climax

Climax

Most dramas have several moments of tension. These recurring moments of intense emotion take you on a roller coaster ride over the course of the play. However, the highest point of action or emotion in a play is called the climax. The climax of a play usually occurs close to the end of the play or performance.



Resolution

Catharsis

Most dramas have several moments of tension. These recurring moments of intense emotion take you on a roller coaster ride over the course of the play. However, the highest point of action or emotion in a play is called the climax. The climax of a play usually occurs close to the end of the play or performance.

Module 8: Drama – *Romeo and Juliet*
Topic 6 Content: Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Resolution

Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act


Climax

Resolution

Catharsis

Resolution

The resolution is the ending of a story in which all the loose ends are tied up and the conflict is resolved. Keep in mind that "resolving the conflict" does not mean that there is a happy ending but rather that the conflict is brought to an end. It is at this point that everything is revealed, not just to the audience but to the other characters as well. Things return to normal, or as close to normal as they can get.



The resolution is the ending of a story in which all the loose ends are tied up and the conflict is resolved. Keep in mind that "resolving the conflict" does not mean that there is a happy ending but rather that the conflict is brought to an end. It is at this point that everything is revealed, not just to the audience but to the other characters as well. Things return to normal, or as close to normal as they can get.

Module 8: Drama – *Romeo and Juliet*

Topic 6 Content: Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Catharsis

Climax, Resolution, and Catharsis in the Final Act

Climax

Resolution

Catharsis

Catharsis

At the end of the play, it is more than just the characters of the tragedy that need to be set aright. The audience of a tragic play also needs a release of tension or anxiety after vicariously experiencing such an emotionally stirring tragedy. Catharsis refers to this cleansing of emotion when the audience gets a chance to exhale and find closure to the tragedy.



At the end of the play, it is more than just the characters of the tragedy that need to be set aright. The audience of a tragic play also needs a release of tension or anxiety after vicariously experiencing such an emotionally stirring tragedy. Catharsis refers to this cleansing of emotion when the audience gets a chance to exhale and find closure to the tragedy.