

4-Part Story Structure

Climax

The point of highest tension or drama or excitement in the story. It all builds to this! How do the characters meet the challenge(s) in this part of the story?

Complication

Something happens! This begins the adventure or circumstances that the characters have to deal with.

Resolution

Or the *dénouement*. The ending of the story, following the high drama of the climax. Do circumstances return as they were before the complication? They *can* but not always - and should they?

Exposition

The beginning: the characters are introduced (not necessarily all at once) and the setting is revealed (sometimes slowly).

