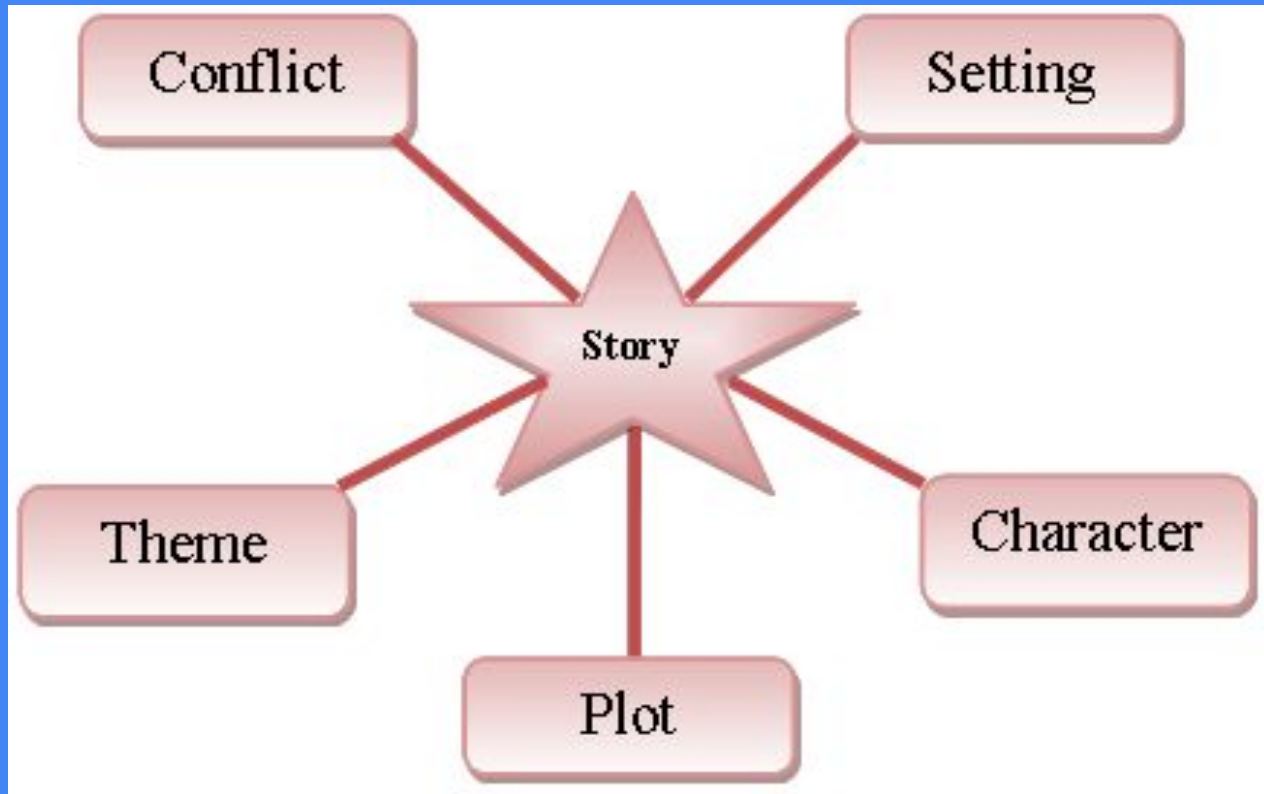# Elements of Story

Conflict

All stories have a to start with a conflict. No Conflict = no story.

I went to the store and got some milk and then came home and had some cereal. This is not a story- it's just something I did.

Conflict

People vs Themselves
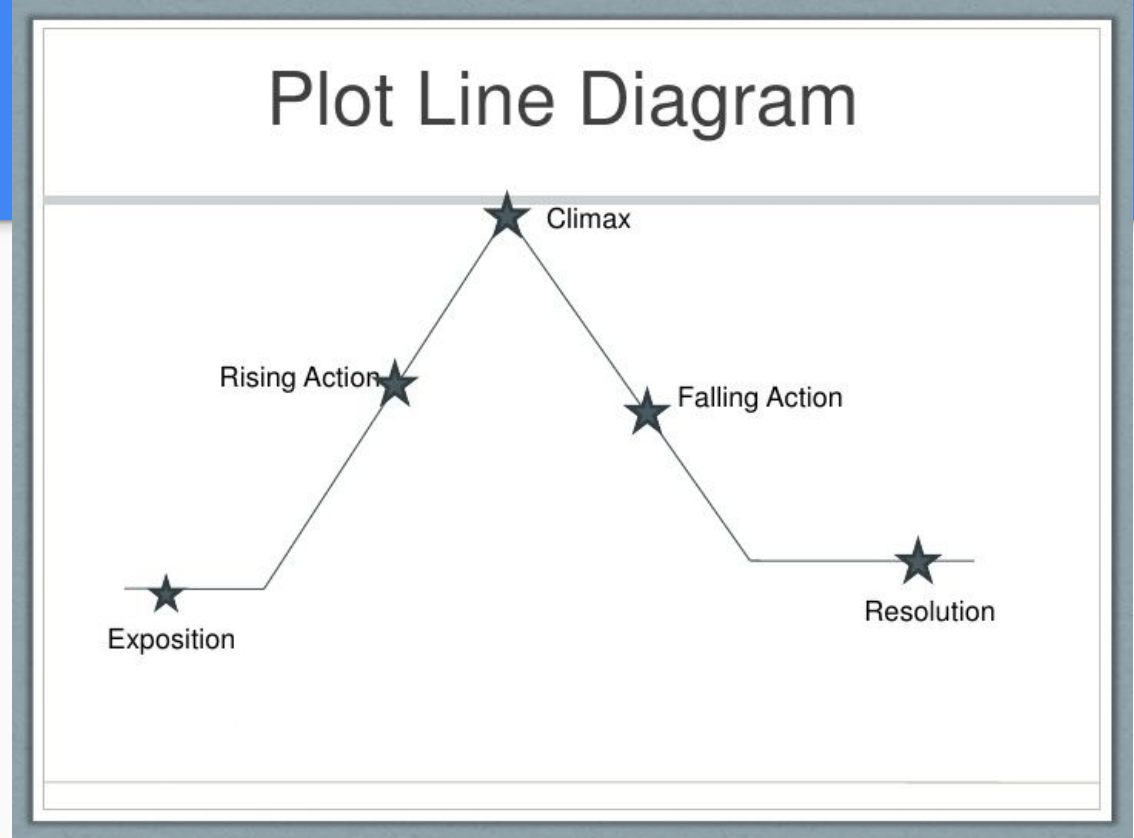People vs. Society
People vs. Nature
People vs People

Plot

Do you remember plot diagrams?

What do you remember?

What does each spot represent in relation to the conflict?

Plot Line Diagram

Climax

Rising Action

Falling Action

Exposition

Resolution

We are going to focus on Climax and Resolution

- Climax is the highest or most intense point in the conflict. It is the turning point in the conflict and when the conflict is resolved.
- The main character undergoes change by solving the conflict.

Character

Protagonist = main character who has to overcome conflict

Antagonist= main character or thing causing

It's important to pay attention to characters actions, and what motivates them.

In order to understand a character you have to be empathetic. What's empathy?

Setting

Setting is where and when the story takes place.

Setting can help create mood (how you feel). Setting can also be symbolic (deeper meaning, like when is a tree more than just a tree?).

Mood and symbolism can also help establish theme.

Mood?

Symbolism?

Theme

Theme goes beyond the text. It is a comment about people and/or society.

Theme is the author's message about a subject.

You have to be able to support your ideas with evidence from text. This evidence is found in the other elements of story.

Theme…

First you have to think about the subject or what the story is about… Let's say friendship.

Then you have to think about what the author says about friendship. The message, and theme may be more like: maintaining friendship is not always easy, but worth it in the end.

Conflict, Plot, Character, and Setting all help you determine theme.

Theme is something you have to think about.

Practice: in table groups of 4 watch the video. Each person is responsible for one of the following: Conflict, Plot, Character, Setting. Then discuss theme as a group. https://vimeo.com/258759925