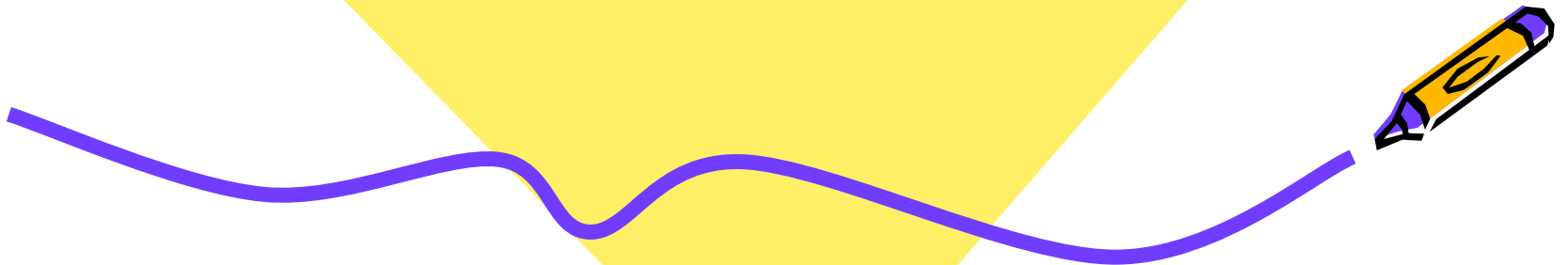


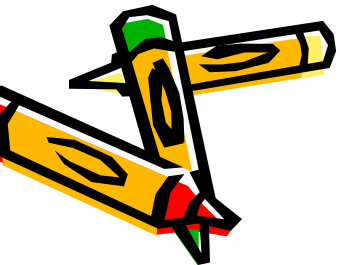
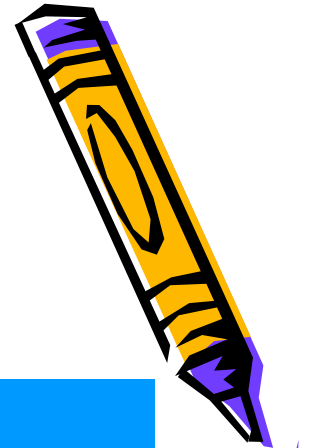
Elements of Short Stories



Plot

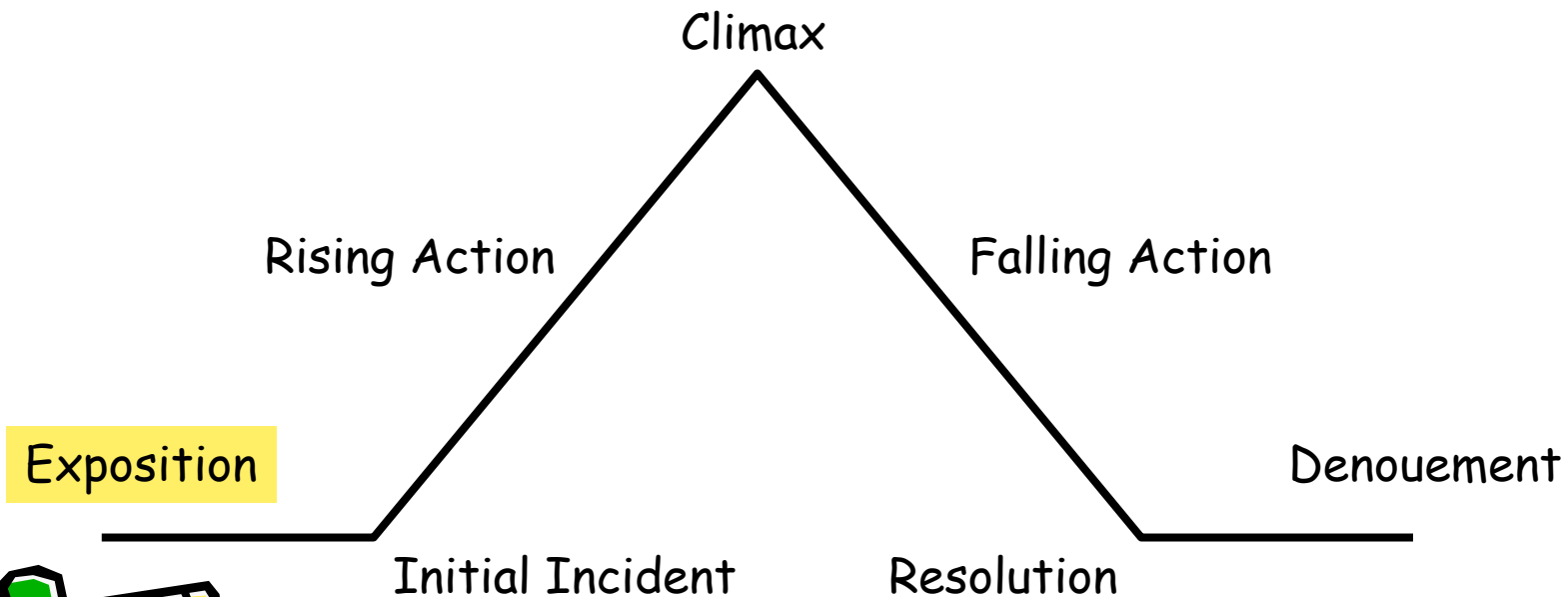
Plot is the sequence of events in literary work.

In most novels, dramas, short stories, and narrative poems, the plot involves both characters and a central conflict.



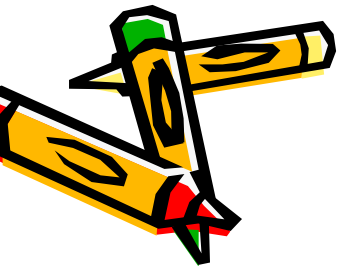
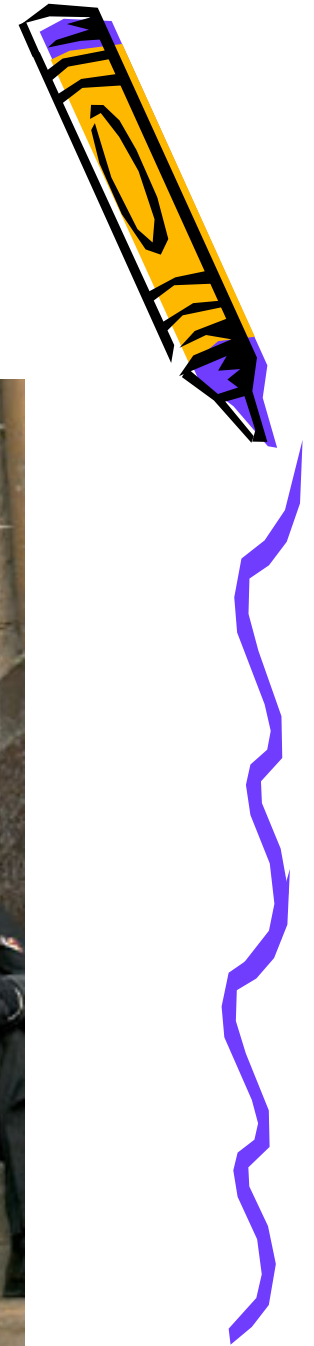
Exposition

The exposition usually introduces the setting, the characters, and the basic situation.



Character

A character is a person or animal who takes part in the action of a literary work.

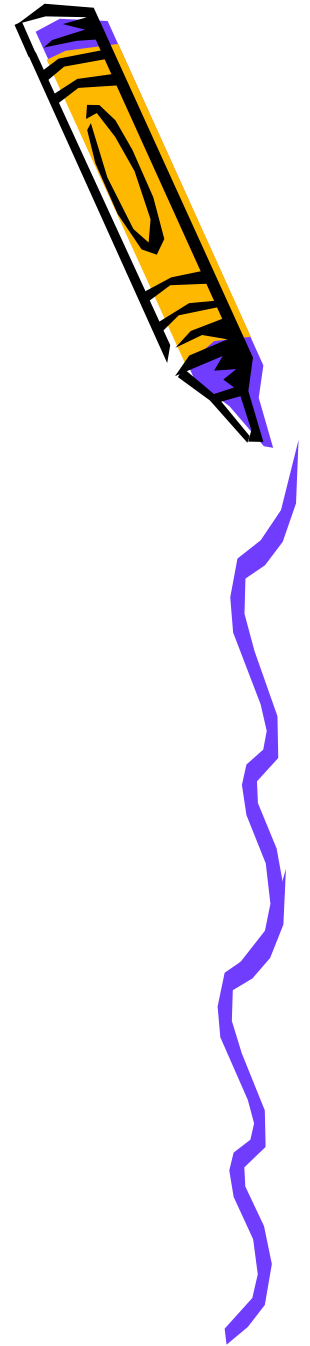


Character

Protagonist- main character in a literary work.



Antagonist- a character or force in conflict with the main character.



Character

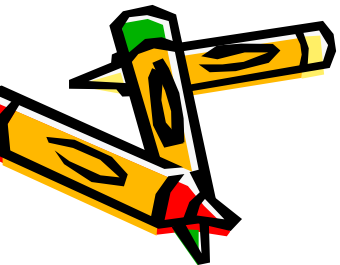
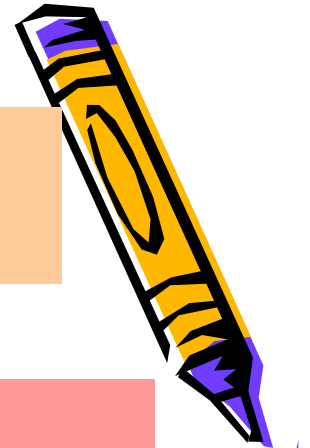
Round character- shows many different traits, faults, as well as virtues.

Dynamic character- develops and grows during the course of a story

Flat character- shows only one side

Static character- does not change.

Foil- character who is contrasted with another character.

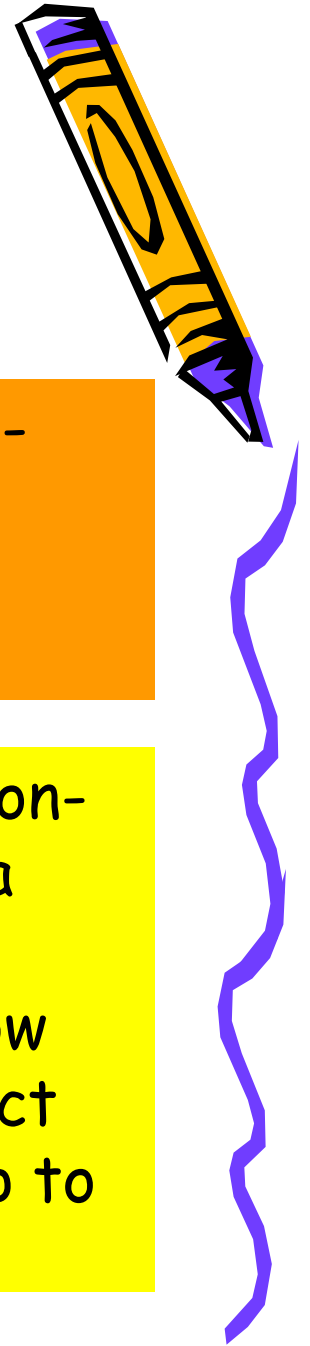


Characterization

- Characterization is the act of creating and developing a character.

Direct characterization-
the author directly
states a character's
traits.

Indirect characterization-
an author tells what a
character looks like,
does, and says and how
other characters react
to him or her. It is up to
the reader to draw.



Setting

The setting of a literary work is the time and place of the action.

- Time can include not only the historical period- past, present, or future- but also a specific year, season, or time of day.
- In some stories setting serves merely as a backdrop for action, a context in which the characters move and speak. In others, however, setting is a crucial element.

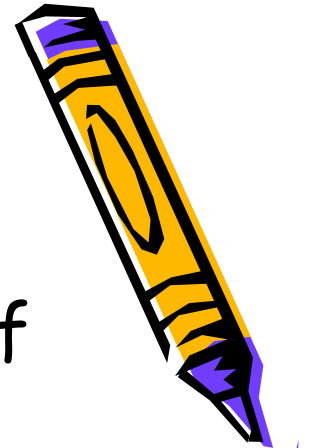
Description of the setting often helps establish the mood of a story.



Situation

The situation is the series of events the main characters finds himself or herself interacting within a story

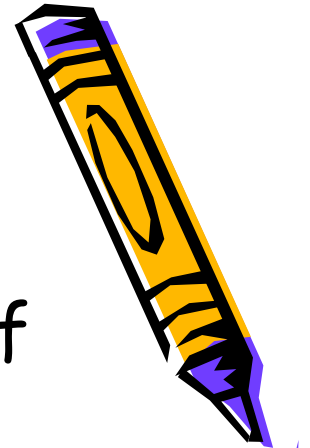
Motivation- a reason that explains or partially explains a character's thoughts, feelings, actions, or behavior. When the motives of a main character are not clear and logical, neither that character nor the story seems believable. Adventure stories often do not concern themselves much with the character's motivations. In contrast, serious fiction usually explores motivation in depth.



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Conflict

Struggle between two opposing forces. Characters in conflict form the basis of stories, novels and plays. There are two kinds of conflict: external and internal.



External Conflict

In an external conflict, the main character struggles against an outside force. The three external conflicts can be summarized as:

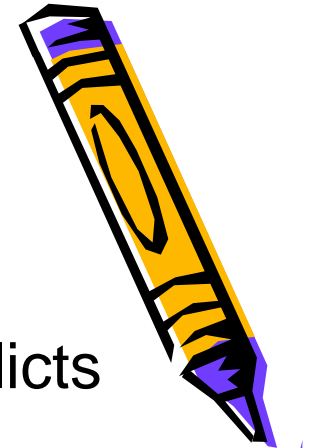
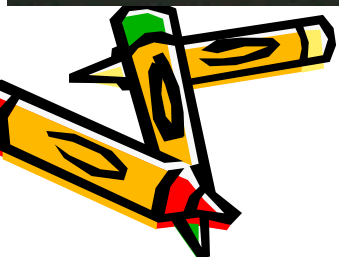
Man vs.
Man



Man vs. Society



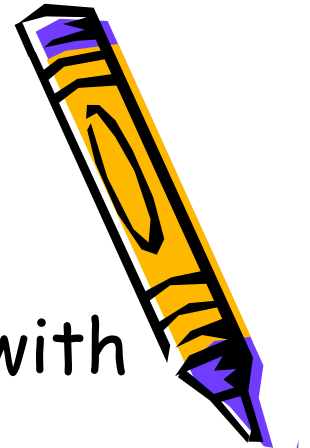
Man vs. Nature



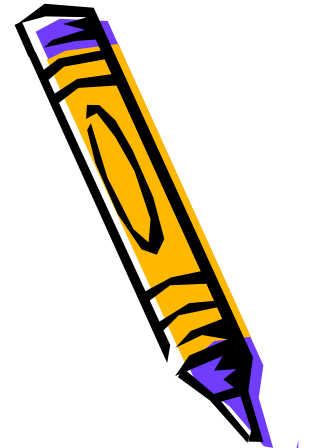
Internal Conflict

An internal conflict involves a character with himself or herself. This conflict can be summarized as:

Man vs. Self



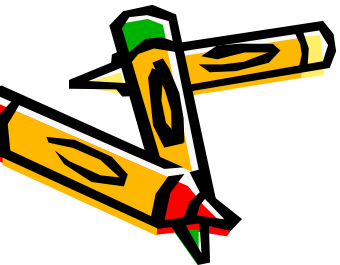
Development



The development is when the conflict increases.

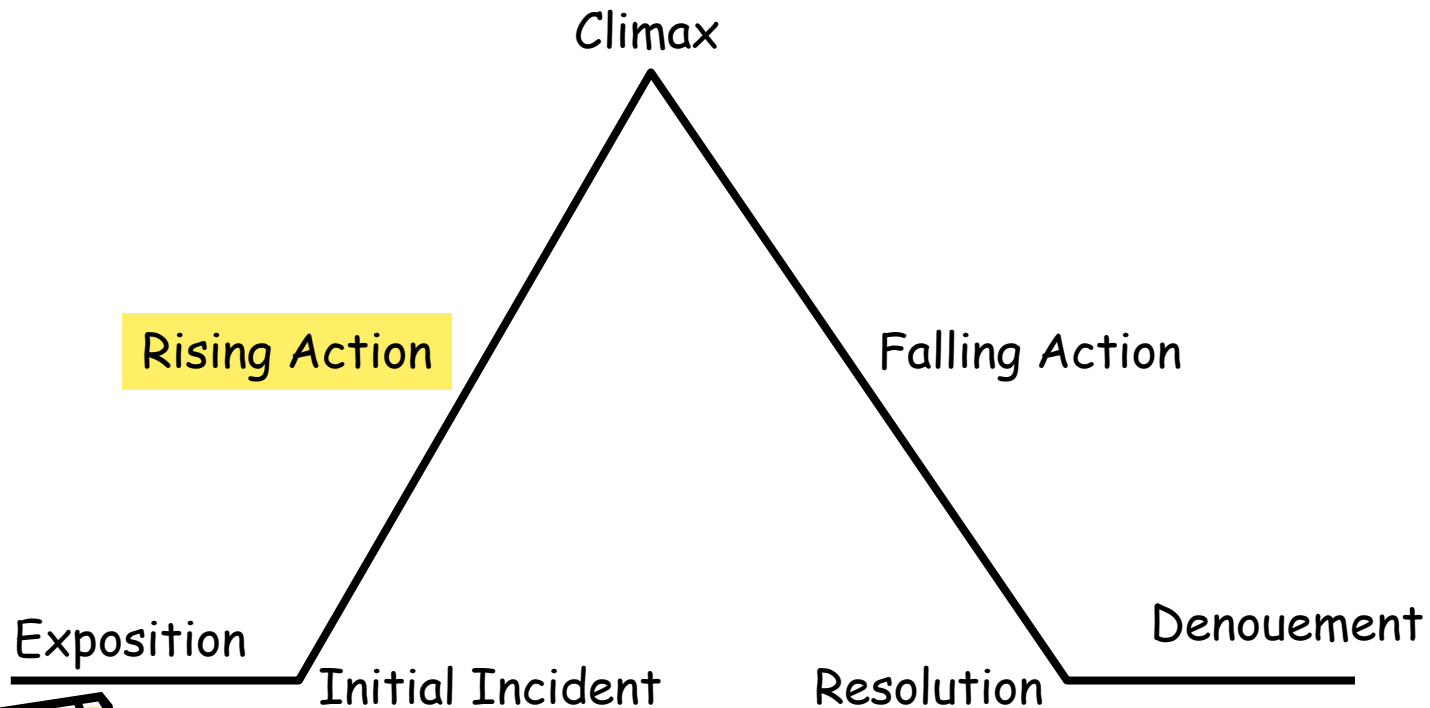
Foreshadowing is the use in a literary work of clues that suggest events that have yet to occur. Use of this technique helps to create suspense, keeping readers wondering and speculating about what will happen next.

Suspense is a feeling of curiosity or uncertainty about the outcome of events in a literary work.



Rising Action

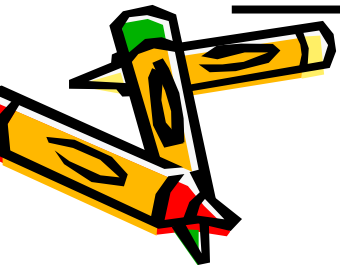
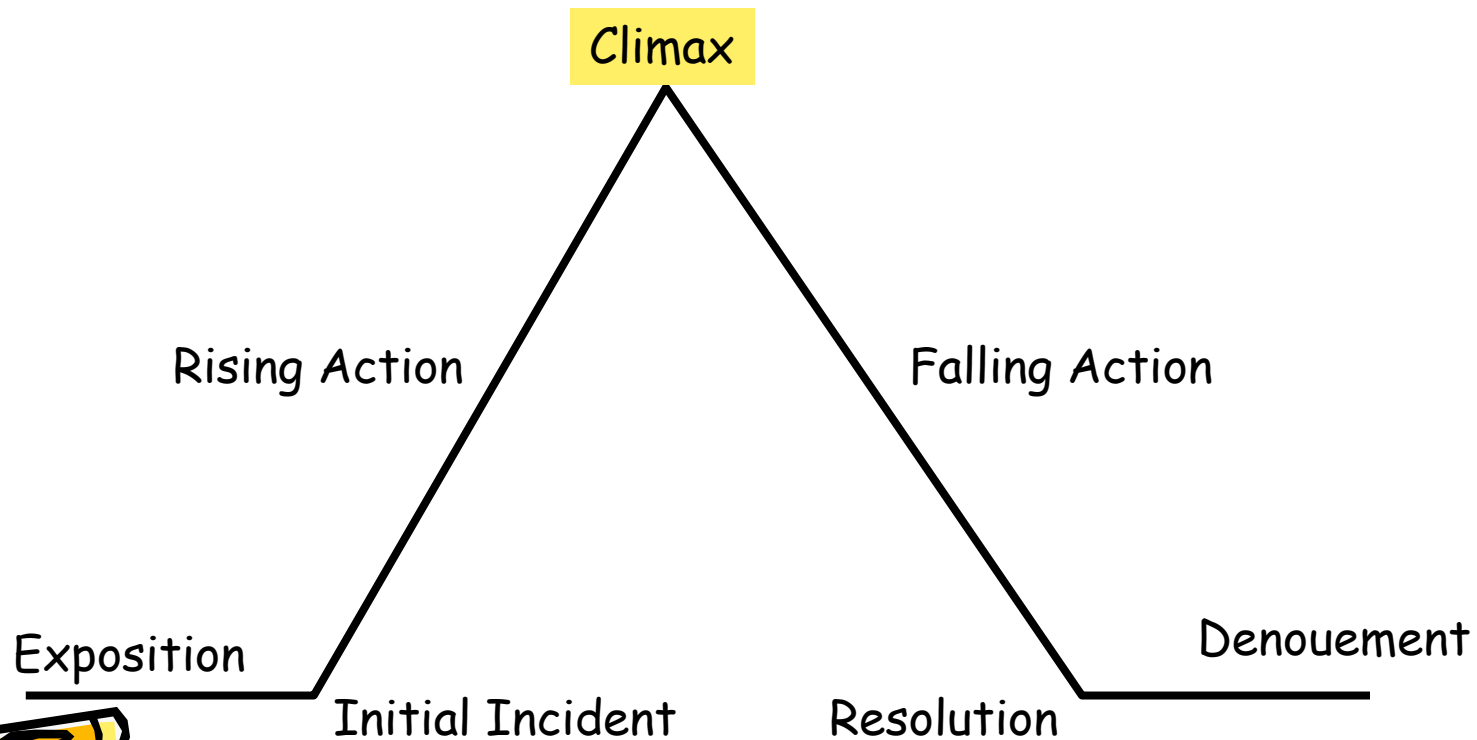
The Rising Action is all the events leading up to the climax.



Climax



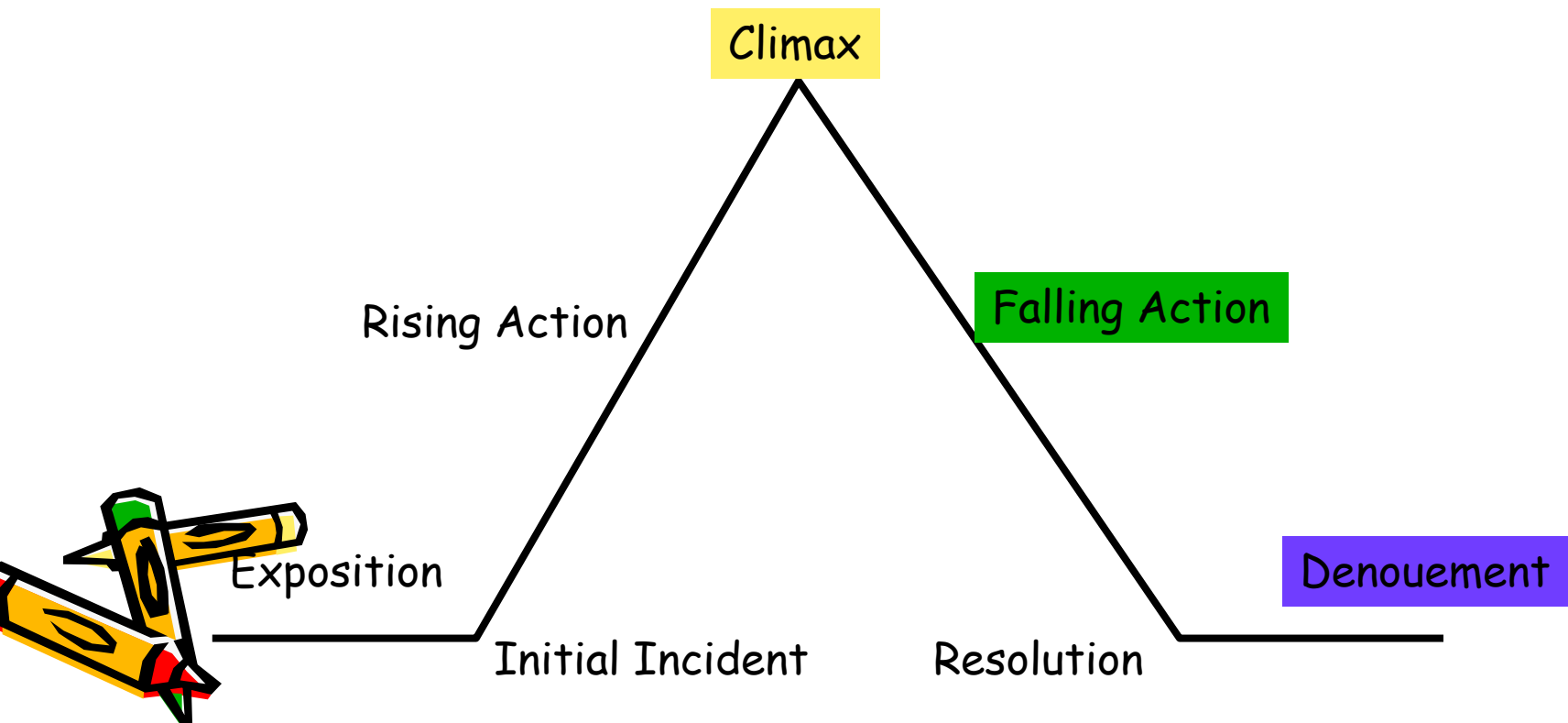
The Climax is when the plot reaches a high point of interest or suspense. At this point, the story turns to favor one side or another. The highest point of tension; the turning point.



The climax is followed by the Falling Action.

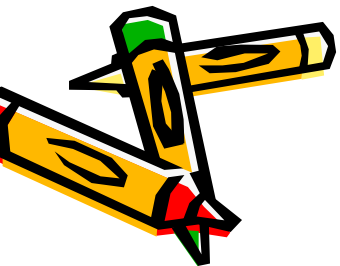
The falling action leads to the Resolution, or end, of the central conflict.

Any events that occur after the resolution make up the Denouement.

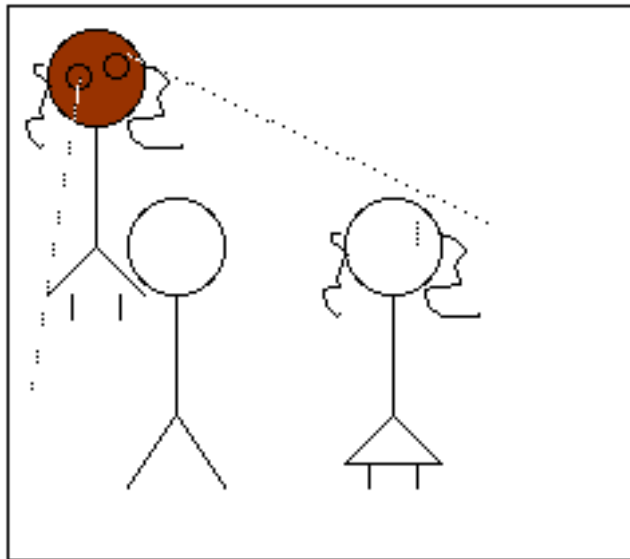
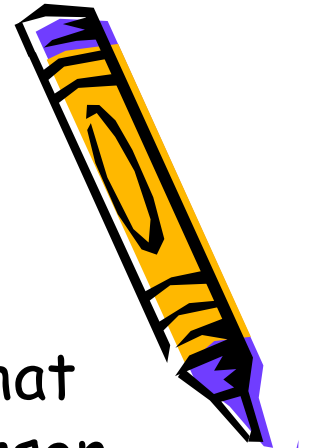


Point of View

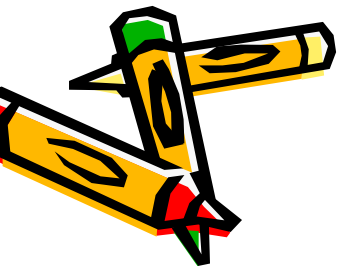
A Narrator is a speaker or character who tells a story. The Narrator may be either a character in the story or an outside observer.



First Person Narrator



When a character in the story tells the story, that character is a First-Person Narrator. This narration may be a major character, a minor character, or just a witness. Readers see only what the character sees, hear only what he or she hears, and so on. The first-person narrator may or may not be reliable.

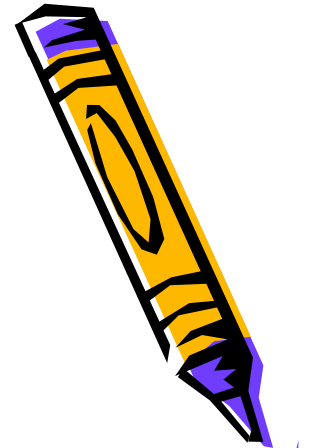
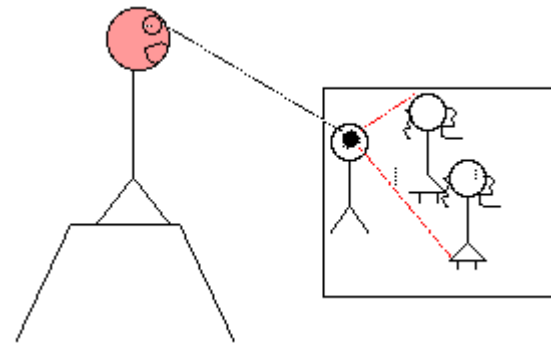
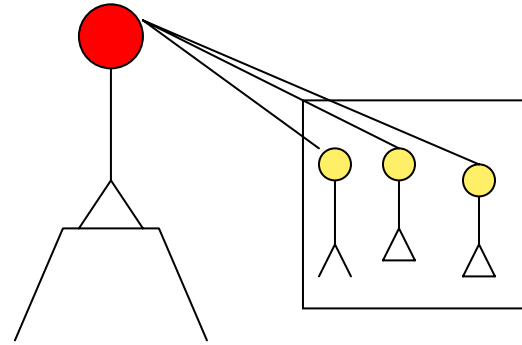



Third-Person Narrator

When a voice outside the story narrates, the story has a third-person narrator.



An Omniscient, or all knowing, third-person narrator can tell readers what any character thinks and feels. (God-Like)

A Limited third-person narrator, on the other hand, sees the world through one character's eyes and reveals only that character's thoughts and no one else's.





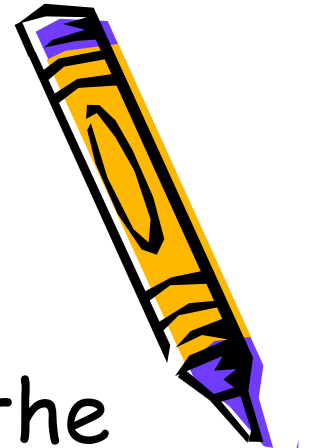
The Tone of a literary work is the writer's attitude toward his or her audience and subject. The tone can often be described by a single adjective such as formal or informal, serious or playful, bitter, or ironic.



The Mood, or atmosphere, is the feeling created in the reader by a literary work or passage. The mood is often suggested by descriptive details.

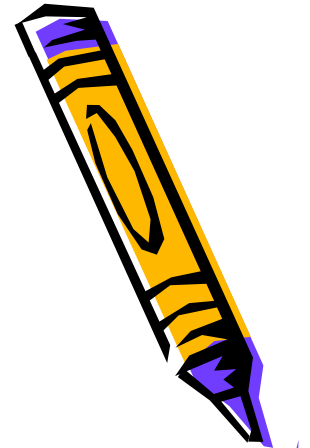
Theme

A Theme is a central message or insight into life revealed through the literary work. The theme is not a condensed summary of the plot. Instead, it is a generalization about human beings or about life that the literary work communicates. A long work, like a novel or a play, may have several themes. A work mean only to entertain may have no theme at all.



Irony

Irony is the general name given to literary techniques that involve differences between appearance and reality, expectation and result, or meaning and intention.

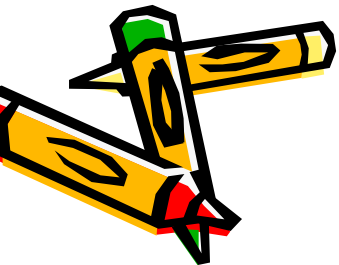




In Verbal Irony, words are used to suggest the opposite of what is meant.

In Dramatic Irony, there is a contradiction between what a character thinks and what the reader or audience knows to be true.

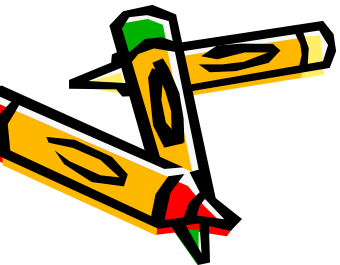
In Irony of Situation, an event occurs that directly contradicts the expectations of the characters, the reader, or the audience.



Symbol



A Symbol is anything that stands for or represents something else. An object that serves as a symbol has its own meaning, but also represents abstract ideas. A flag symbolizes a country. A flashy car may symbolize wealth.



Allusion

Allusion is a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art.

