

STORY CHART: Basic Terms

- ◆ **Setting:** When and where the story takes place
- ◆ **Characters:** Persons/creatures in story
 - Protagonist: The main character in a story; not necessarily a hero
 - Antagonist: The person or force who opposes main character
- ◆ **Conflict:** The problem or struggle the protagonist encounters
 - Man vs Self: A character faces an inner struggle/turmoil
 - Man vs Man: An individual character creates a problem to another
 - Man vs Society: A group of people create a problem for a character
 - Man vs Nature: Inanimate elements/forces of nature create a problem for a character
- ◆ **Exposition:** Characters are introduced; background is explained; setting is described
- ◆ **Rising Action:** Problems or events that arise after the conflict has been introduced
- ◆ **Climax:** The pivotal/turning point in the story- often the most exciting
- ◆ **Falling Action:** The action/events following the climax which leads the reader to the ending
- ◆ **Conclusion/Resolution:** The problems are resolved and the action comes to an end
- ◆ **Theme:** The message the author wishes to convey
- ◆ **P.O.V. / Point of View:** The perspective from which the story is being told
 - 1st Person: The author uses 1st person pronouns (“I”, “me”, “mine,” “we”, “our”, “us”) to tell the story from his (protagonist’s) point of view.
 - 2nd Person: A rarely-used point of view in which the author speaks directly to the reader using 2nd person pronouns “you” and “your”.
 - 3rd Person: This commonly-used point of view is that of an outsider’s perspective—one who’s over-seeing the action, and typically breaks down into 2 basic forms.
 - A. Third-person omniscient: The thoughts of every character are open to the reader.
 - B. Third-person limited: The reader enters only one (or few) character's mind