

# Elements of a Narrative

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Ann Bouma

## **APPENDIX A: Elements of a Narrative: Vocabulary**

(To make this activity a peer dictation, make two versions of this appendix and delete alternate information. E.g., on version 1, remove the word "protagonist"; on version 2, remove the definition of antagonist, etc.).

**Protagonist:** main character

**Antagonist:** a character in conflict with the main character

**Conflict:** the central problem or issue to be solved in a plot; involves the main character struggling against another character, nature, or him- or herself

**Setting:** the location of a story

**Tone:** the attitude the author expresses of his/her topic

**Lead/Background:** the introduction of the characters to the reader and the background to the problem

**Rising Action:** when the problem is introduced to the reader

**Climax:** the time when problem or conflict is resolved

**Falling Action:** when the problem has been solved and the characters are finding the answers to all of their questions

**Resolution/Conclusion:** the scene in which the plot reaches its final outcome; all questions are answered

**Theme/Thesis:** the main idea of a work, the lesson the story teaches

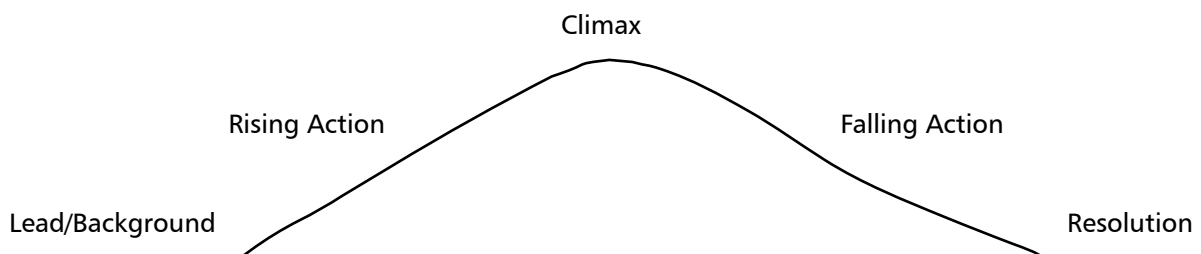
## **APPENDIX B: Elements of a Narrative: Graphic Organizer**

Name:

Class:

Date:

Fill in what happened in the song narration for each of the elements.



**APPENDIX C: *Elements of a Narrative: Outline***

Name:

Class:

Date:

Planning My Personal Narrative

I am going to write about the time that I:

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Here is one **lead/background** I could use to begin my story:

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Here is another possible **lead/background**:

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I need to organize the events in my story so it is easy to follow. This is the sequence of events I will include in my personal narrative:

**Rising Action**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

**Elements of a Narrative**

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

**Climax**

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

**Falling Action**

11. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution**

13. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

14. \_\_\_\_\_  
Details/images: \_\_\_\_\_

Details and images come alive through careful **word choice**, **ideas**, and **sensory descriptions**. Dialogue helps develop the characters in the story. It also adds interest and varies the pace. Find a place where you could include some **dialogue** that reveals your character's **voice** and personality and record it here.

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### Elements of a Narrative

The **theme/thesis** should tell what you learned or realized or how you have changed as a result of this experience. It should be the main idea of the story.

Here is a possible theme/thesis for my personal narrative:

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Here is another possible theme/thesis for my narrative:

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The ending of the story should **conclude the action** and **incorporate the theme**. Put a theme from above together with the ending of the story. Make sure your ideas and sentences have fluency so it doesn't feel like you tacked it on at the end.

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Here are three **titles** for my story:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_