ENGLISH, LITERACY, AND COMMUNICATION

Narrative writing

Difficulty level: Easy

English, Literacy, and Communication

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Overview of the concept

This is how you tell a story people actually want to finish, whether it is a short story for class, a speech, or the story of something that happened to you. A good story has a moment that pulls the reader in and a reason to keep going to the end, not just a list of things that happened. You use the same skill when you write a college application essay, give a toast at a wedding, or explain to a friend why a trip mattered to you. People remember a story long after they forget a list of facts.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Put this story in order: (a) She practised daily. (b) Sara wanted to learn piano. (c) She played at a concert.

SOLUTION

First comes the wish that starts the story: (b).

Then comes the effort: (a). Last comes the outcome: (c).

So the order is: b, a, c.

EXAMPLE 2

Q Name the missing story part: 'Tom lived in a small town. He found a lost dog. He searched for its owner.' What is missing?

SOLUTION

Check the parts: setting and character are there, and a problem (lost dog) is there.

The story stops before the problem is solved.

So the missing part is: the resolution (finding the owner and returning the dog).

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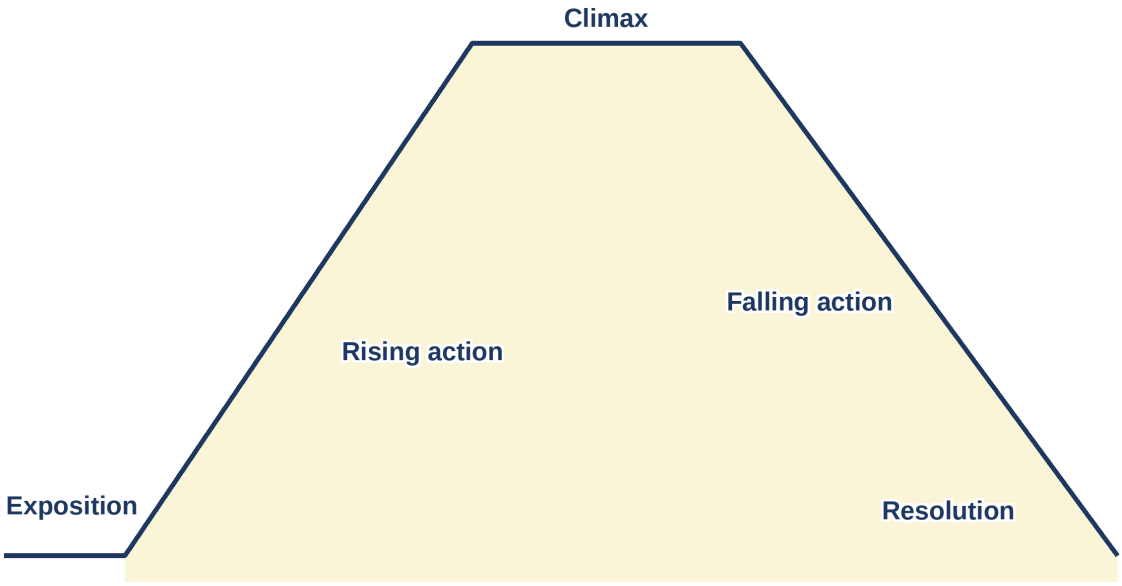
Practice questions

1 Order: (a) They lived happily. (b) A storm hit. (c) The family prepared. Give the order. Look at the story mountain.



A a, b, c

B c, b, a

C b, a, c

D c, a, b

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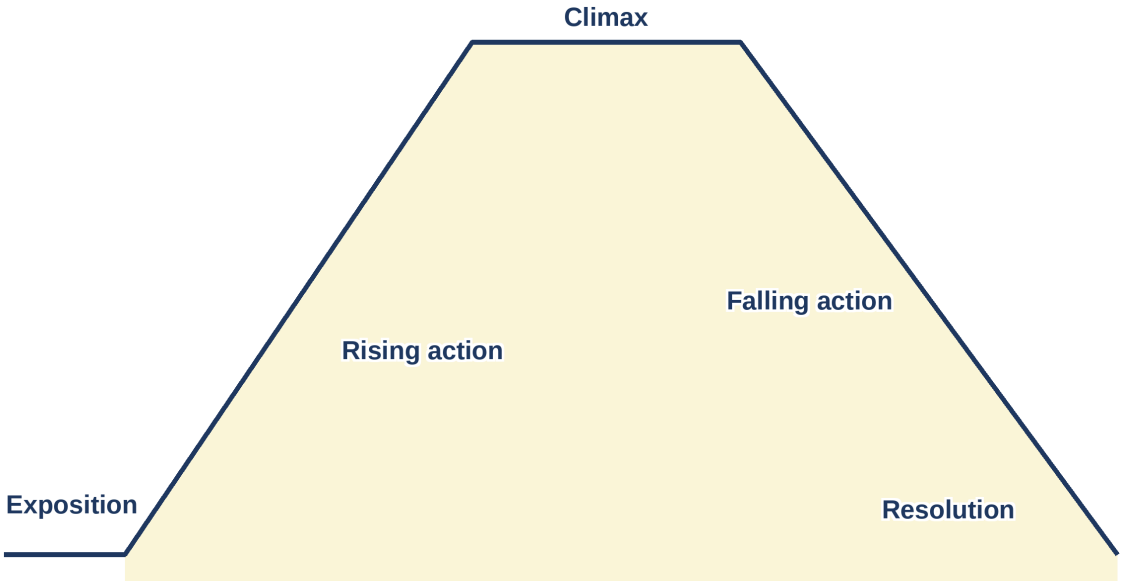
2

Name the part: 'Sara lived by the sea.' Setting, problem, or resolution?



A Setting

B Problem

C Resolution

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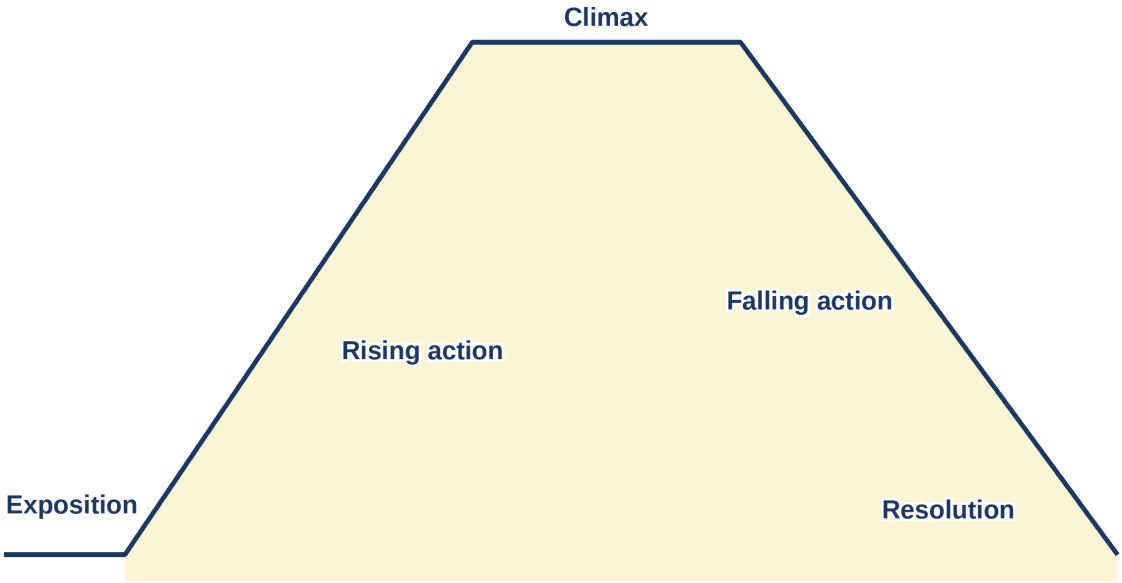
3

Name the part: 'The boat began to sink.' Setting, problem, or resolution?



A Setting

B Problem

C Resolution

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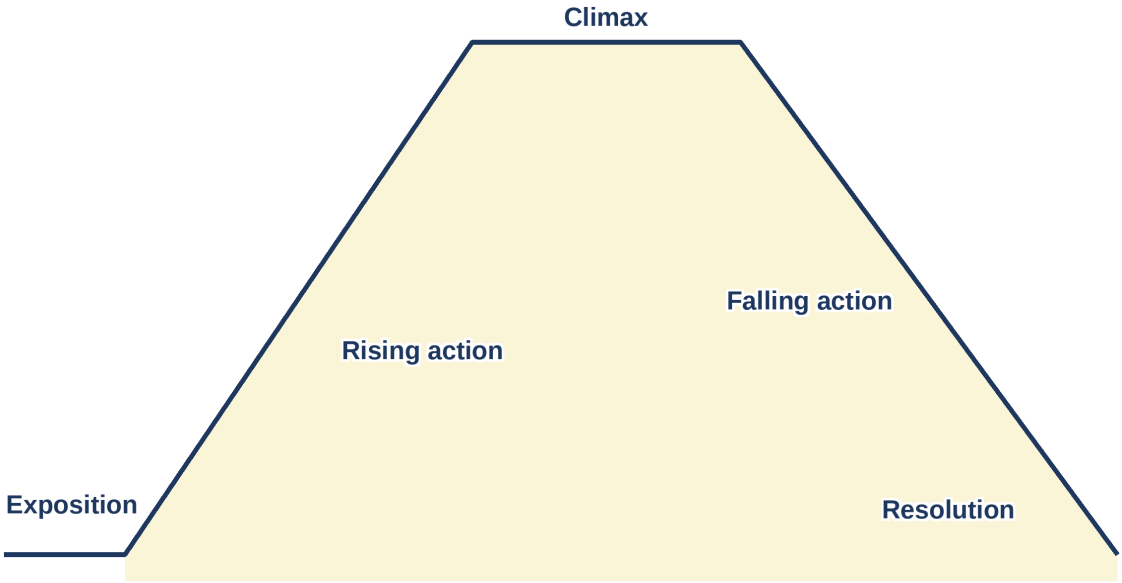
4 **Name the part: 'In the end, the family was safe at home, and life went back to normal.' Setting, problem, or resolution?**



- **A** Setting
- **B** Problem
- **C** Resolution

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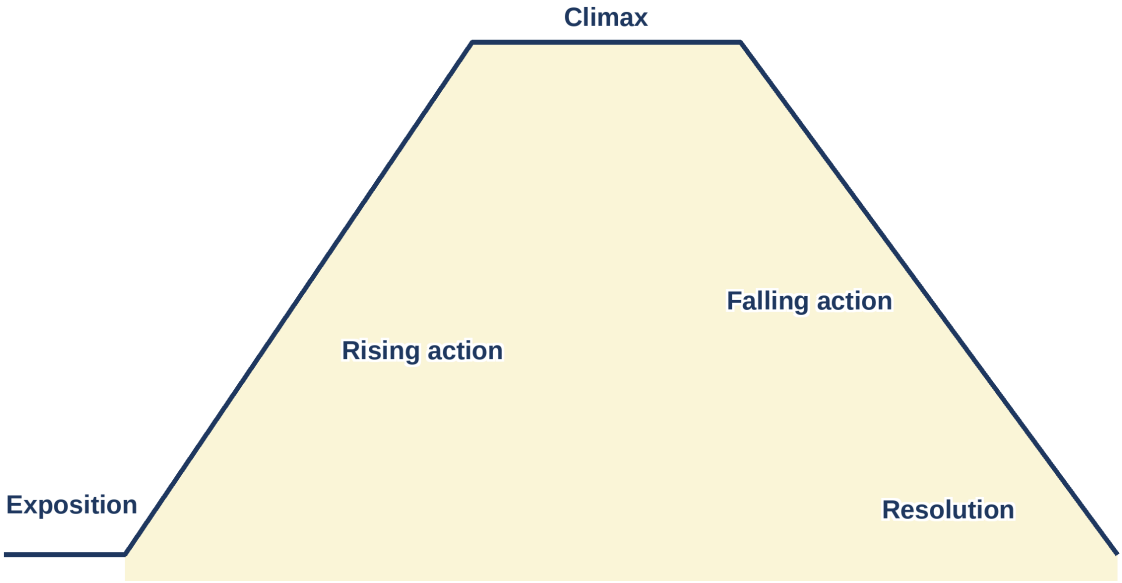
5 Order: (a) He trained hard. (b) Ben wanted to win the race. (c) Ben won the race. Give the order. Look at the story mountain.



A a, b, c

B b, c, a

C b, a, c

D c, a, b

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6 **Name the missing story part: 'Sam lived on a farm. One morning his horse ran away. He searched the fields all day.' What is missing?**

A Resolution

B Setting

C Problem

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7 **Name the missing story part: 'Mia lived in a big city. She loved to paint. Her paintings were shown in a gallery.' What is missing?**

A Setting

B Resolution

C Problem

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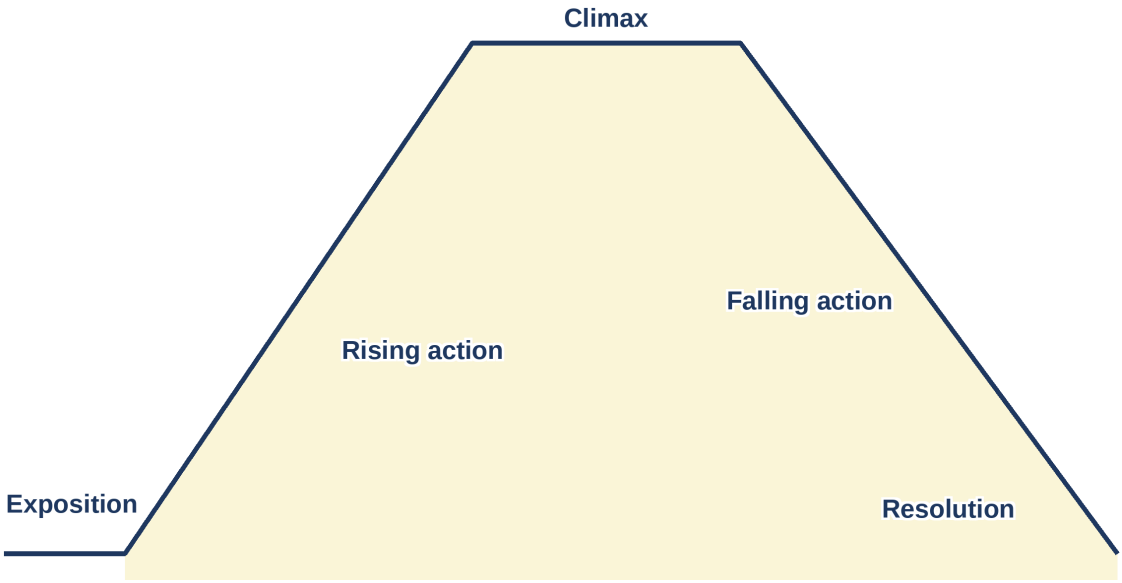
8 **The story so far: 'Ana wanted to pass her exam. She studied nightly.' What should happen next? Look at the story mountain.**



A Ana passed her exam.

B Ana wanted to pass her exam.

C Ana studied nightly.

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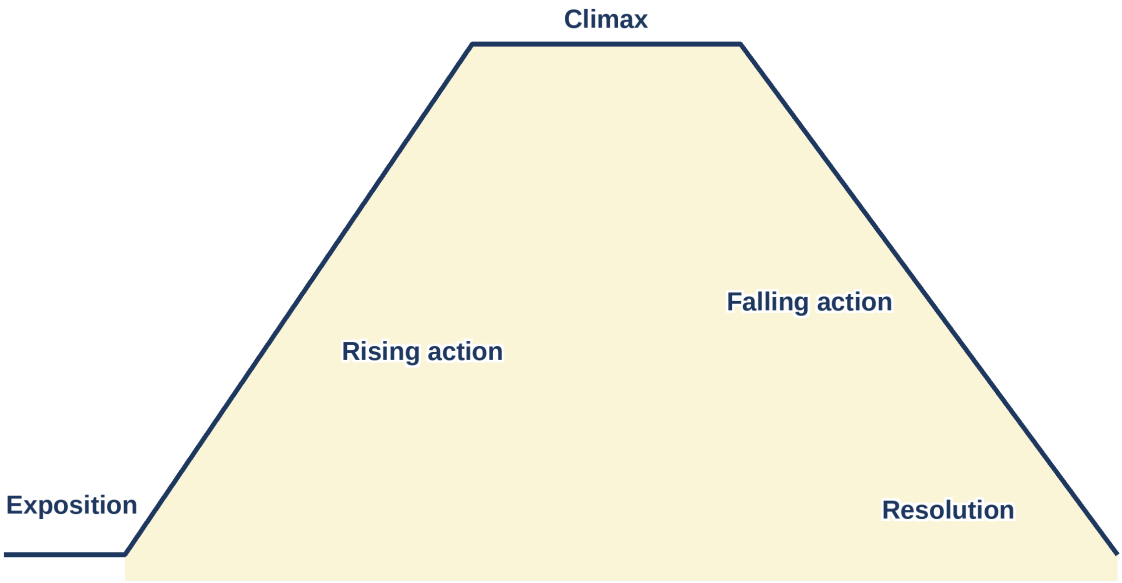
9

Name the missing story part: 'Sara wanted to bake a cake for her mother, but she had never baked before. She mixed the batter and put it in the oven. The cake rose and smelled sweet.' What is missing?



A Problem

B Setting

C Resolution

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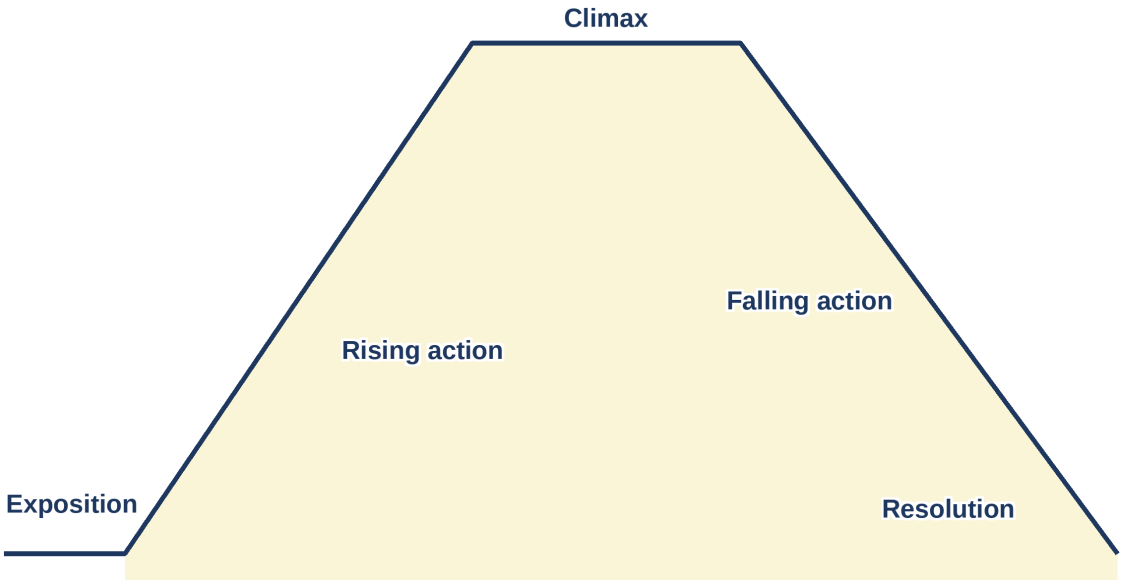
10 'Lena lived in a small village. One day a fire started in the bakery. She ran to warn her neighbours. Together they put the fire out.'Which sentence is the problem?



A Lena lived in a small village.

B One day a fire started in the bakery.

C She ran to warn her neighbours.

D Together they put the fire out.

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ANSWER KEY

1. c, b, a

2. Setting

3. Problem

4. Resolution

5. b, a, c

6. Resolution

7. Problem

8. Ana passed her exam.

9. Setting

10. One day a fire started in the bakery.

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