

Unit 8. The Night - Scary story - Identifying the parts of a story. By Ms. Reem Mohamed

NAME : CLASS:

Instructions: Read the short story and answer the question.

A Scary Night

This is a story about Ben, and his scary experience:

It was a dark and stormy night. I was about to go to bed when I heard a tapping sound on my window.



"Who's there?" I shouted. Suddenly there was a flash of lightning; I saw a face at the window. It looked like an alien ... an alien that I had seen on the television show, "the X files."

I felt very scared. I ran to my bed and pulled my blanket over my head. I started to shout for my parents but there was no reply. Then I remembered that they were at a fancy dress party.

I peeped out of my blanket but it was too dark to see anything. Then I heard footsteps. They were getting louder and louder. It was dark but I knew the way to my drawer where I kept my camera. I ran there and took out my camera and started to take pictures in the direction of the window. Soon the footsteps died off.



The grandfather clock struck ...DONG ... It was 12 midnight. I went back to my bed and tried to sleep. But I could not sleep. I felt too frightened. I sat up, my mind was full of thoughts. Time passed ... one o'clock, two o'clock, three o'clock, four o'clock. Finally, I fell asleep.

I woke up only after eight and decided to investigate. I found some footprints outside my bedroom window. I measured them with a tape and found them to be exactly the same size as my father's shoes. The footprints ended at the door of my house. I then went to town to get the film developed. But when I saw the photos I was shocked. They were black and I could hardly see anything. Then I remembered that I did not use the flash.

When I reached home I told my father the whole incident and he started to laugh. I started laughing too when he told me that he had dressed up as an alien for the party. Today, I am still amused to think I was so afraid of my own father.

By Huang YiPeng, February 1998

Question 1. Put the parts of the story in the correct order on the story graph. (A-F)

* A story graph helps us understand the flow of the story.

A) (it's getting better)- investigating what happened when he woke up in the morning.

B) introduction of the story

C) the problem (what is the matter?) - "WHO's there" I shouted.

D) Ending - Realizing that it was only his father and NO ALIEN / feeling silly

E) development of the problem (what happened next??) - hearing some sounds / getting scared - *CLIMAX*

F) setting & characters : dark and gloomy night / the bedroom /the main character(s)

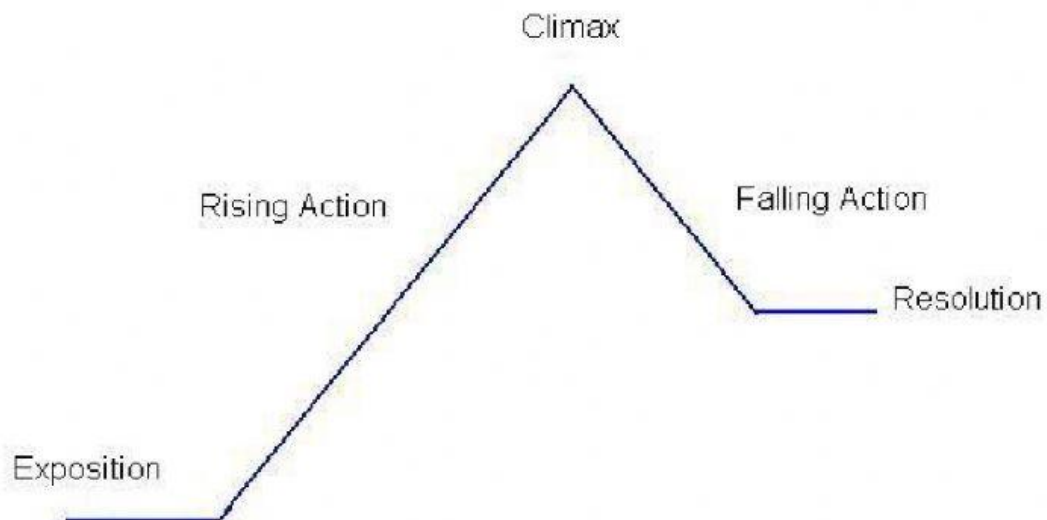


Figure 1. Plot Structure