

What is Plot?

1. What happens.
2. How it happens.

What are the Parts of a Plot?

1. **Exposition** - introduces the reader to the setting and characters.
2. **Inciting Incident** - this event creates the central conflict or struggle.
3. **The Development** - part of the story where the struggle takes place.
4. **The Climax** - the high point of interest and suspense in the story.
5. **The Resolution (Denouement)** - point at which the conflict is ended, or resolved.

What is conflict?

1. Conflict is the struggle between opposing forces.
2. Central Conflict - main character must fight against some force or make an important decision.
 - a. **Internal conflict** - take place inside a person's mind. Example - a character is torn between risking his life to save someone else.
 - b. **External conflict** - takes place when a person or group struggles against another person or group or against a non-human force such as a storm or a car that won't start.

Special Plot Techniques

1. **Suspense** - feeling of excitement or tension the reader experiences as the plot unfolds. Writers create suspense by raising questions in the reader's mind.
2. **Foreshadowing** - a hint or clue about an event that will occur later in the story.
3. **Flashback** - a section of the story that is interrupted to tell about an earlier event.
4. **Surprise Ending** - an ending that catches the reader off guard with something unexpected.