

Theme and Resolution in Novels



Objective

In this lesson, you will

Novel Endings

There are five main parts of a plot.

- ❖ exposition
- ❖ rising _____
- ❖ climax
- ❖ falling _____
- ❖ _____

Falling Action

- happens after the _____
→ Characters deal with the results of the climax and see the consequences of their _____.
- sets the stage for the story's happy _____

Resolution

- features the first last series of events in a novel
- usually solves the _____ conflict of the story

Plot and Character Development



Key Term

character development: ways that a character _____ as the story unfolds

Characters who have strengths and weaknesses usually appeal less more to readers.

- In most stories, the main character overcomes his or her weaknesses by the end.
- Some remain fixed because of a _____ that they're unable to overcome.

? Question

a main character who remains unchanged	↔	
a sudden realization that changes the character's beliefs and actions	↔	
ways in which a character changes as the story unfolds	↔	<i>character development</i>
a fault or weakness that a character can't overcome	↔	

Writing Lab

Summarizing a text involves describing it in your own words without giving an _____.

Opinion	_____ be proven true or false
Fact	proven to be _____

Examples:

- "Stars are fascinating" is a fact an opinion .
- "Stars are exploding balls of gas" is a fact an opinion .

A summary

- is longer shorter than the original text but still contains its _____ points and meaning
- should be written in _____ own words

summary

Symbolism and Theme

One way to figure out the author's message is to look at the novel's symbols and themes.

Symbolism



Key Term

symbol: something that stands for something else (often an _____)

A symbol can have several different meanings depending on how it's used.

Example: use of the color red

Usage	Meaning
<i>a Valentine's Day card</i>	
	<i>stop</i>
<i>red on a fire engine or ambulance</i>	

_____ symbols → have a similar meaning across cultures and don't need to be explained

Examples: winter symbolizes _____ and spring symbolizes new life

_____ symbols → invented by the writer and used for a specific story

Examples: a diamond necklace may symbolize greed in one story but symbolize the importance of family in another

Theme

A theme is an idea that _____ throughout a story (often _____ the author wants to share)

A.C.T.I.V.E. reading can help determine the themes of a novel.

A	_____ Questions	"What is the author trying to tell me?"
C	Make _____	Relate the story's theme to elements outside the story such as your own life, something else you have read, or something in the world.
T	_____ Down Information	Learning about words or details you're not familiar with can help you better understand the meaning of the novel.
I	Make _____	Conclusions based on evidence and reasoning will help you find deeper meaning in the novel.
V	Visualize	Think about the _____ that stayed with you.
E	Eureka!	Put the steps together to figure out the main _____ of the novel.

Summary

How are a novel's character development and resolution connected?