**The Elements of Plot**

**(This lesson will take at least 3-4, 40-minute classes)**

**Objective:**

Students will be expected to complete their own story maps **(suggested interactive links below).** Through the use of their choice of representation (technology) or with a creative storyboard, the students will clearly represent the plot elements.

<http://www.vrml.k12.la.us/graphorgan/plot/plot.htm>

<http://www.thinkport.org/technology/template.tp>

<http://www.mcrc-online.ca/documents/buehl/goread.pdf>

**Outcomes Targeted:**

* Listen attentively to grasp the essential elements of a message, and recognize and consider supporting details
* Participate in small-group conversation and whole class discussion
* Follow instructions and respond to questions and directions
* Interpret, select, and combine information using a variety of strategies, resources, and technologies
* Make evaluations and judgments about texts
* Understand that note-taking is purposeful and has many purposes (personal use, gathering information for an assignment, recording what has happened)
* Note-taking takes on many forms (lists, summaries, observations, and/or descriptions)

**Description of Activity:**

Elements of short stories have been viewed, discussed and analyzed throughout many classes. The concept of reviewing plot is for those students who feel they do not have a deep understanding of this concept. The discovery of plot has been modeled several times.

**Flipped Lesson Video: (I DO)**

The concept that traditionally needs to be explained several times is plot. Plot is an element of short stories where concepts such as rising action and climax maybe difficult to comprehend or discover in the story. The video is created with a program called **“Powtoon”**, where an explanation of plot can be viewed.

Video URL: <http://youtu.be/KwC6HaIXpeo>

**Students will: (WE DO)**

* Review the characteristics of the literary element of plot. These links below are interactive links on fairy tale short stories where the students can listen to them and interact using plot elements. It breaks it down into separate sections. The students are able to make connections to these stories since they have read them before, or at least seen them. Prior background knowledge is important in order to make correlations. They are also able to click on each element and interact with it and take a fun interactive quiz.
* The students are able to demonstrate an understanding of plot structure by applying the term in familiar contexts.

<http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/cinderella.html>

[Cinderella](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/cinderella.html) [Setting](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/setting.html) [Characters](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/characters.html) [Sequence](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/sequence.html) [Exposition](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/exposition.html) [Conflict](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/conflict.html) [Climax](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/climax.html) [Resolution](http://www.learner.org/interactives/story/resolution.html)

* Use a plot diagram graphic organizer to present their analysis of plot structure.

\*\*\*The link below allows the students to access a graphic organizer online and be interactive with the plot diagram. These graphic organizers represent the **supportive handouts.**

<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/plot-diagram/>

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### Student Assessment/Reflection:

Informal assessment works best for this activity. Reviewing the students’ plot diagrams as they interact online allows the teacher to gauge their understanding of plot structures. The specific details indicate that students demonstrate their understanding and their ability to define the literary terms and indicate their confidence and knowledge of the plot concept. However, rubrics are included for a self-assessment, teacher assessment and final product.

**Final Product: (WE SHARE)**

Once mastery is achieved, students will be expected to complete their own story maps **(suggested interactive links below).** Through the use of their choice of representation (technology) or with a creative storyboard, the students will clearly represent the plot elements. We will then share their findings. The following links are graphic organizers.

<http://www.vrml.k12.la.us/graphorgan/plot/plot.htm>

<http://www.thinkport.org/technology/template.tp>

<http://www.mcrc-online.ca/documents/buehl/goread.pdf>