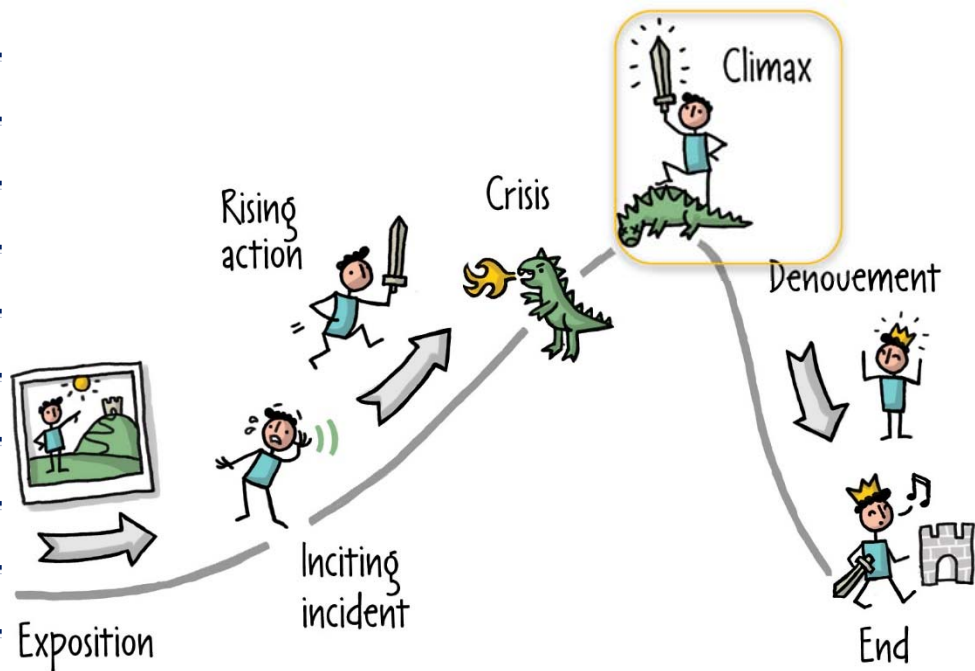




Freytag's Pyramid - Climax

Freytag's Pyramid – Climax



The climax in a story is the point, where the value of the story is tested to its highest degree. As such, it is also the moment in a story with the greatest amount of drama, action, and movement. The climax usually is just one scene, and while it doesn't take up much space in the story, especially compared to the rising action, it is often the longest scene in the story

Climax:

Ideas

- Focus on Your Story's Values, Not Just More "Conflict" or "Action" (e.g. Life vs. Death, Love vs. Hate, Accomplishment vs. Failure, Maturity vs. Naiveté, Good vs. Evil)
- Increase external conflict. Increasing external conflict is an obvious way to build to a climax. ...
- Amplify internal conflict. ...
- Use setting to add uncertainty. ...
- Use scene and chapter structure to build tension. ...
- Increase mystery and suspense.

Image Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/rosenfeldmedia/25698275295>



Instructions

Print out the card and give it to a student or a group of students. Ask them to try and create a climax situation for their story. Ask them to utilize the ideas written in the back of the card. If needed, ask reflective questions to help them be more accurate. The climax and crisis cards could be distributed together, as they represent tightly interconnected elements.

The Climax represents the situation in which the main character has to make a decision/choice, because the crisis has reached its maximum and can no longer be. So it represents the ultimate internal question for the character to answer.

Suggestions

1. It is a good idea to deduct the climax from the crisis. So if you used post-it notes on earlier stages, continue on the same board/paper.
2. Ask the students to write down all ideas in a brainstorming session. Then filter them and keep the needed ones. Gradually the students will improve and become more accurate.
3. Pose reflective questions on the events. For example, ask why is posed dilemma so important for the character, why is it reaching the character's limits, what could happen in every possible choice, etc.
4. Select stories that the children are familiar with and pin point the Climax element and their connection with the overall structure exposition and the characters. This will help understand this section better