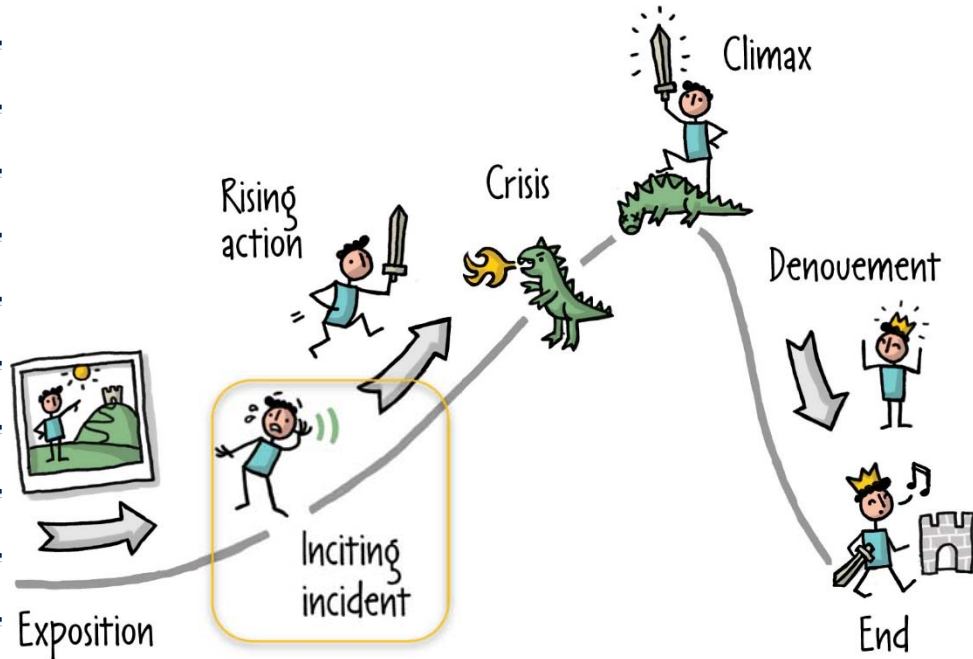




Freytag's Pyramid – Inciting Incident

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Inciting Incident:

It is an event that hooks the viewer into the story and sets everything else that happens into motion. This moment is when an event thrusts the protagonist into the main action of the story.

Ideas

- Give your inciting incident urgency. ...
- Raise questions for your reader. ...
- Use your inciting incident to illustrate key aspects of character(s) ...
- Set the tone for your story. ...
- Know where in the story your inciting incident occurs. ...
- Develop your inciting incident.

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 to answer the suggestions on the back of the card and then try to put it together in a small text. Ask them to be very clear in their descriptions. If needed, ask reflective questions to help them be more accurate.

Suggestions

1. It is a good idea to use post-it notes on pieces of paper (one for each question). Even better, use colored post-its or colored pencils to brainstorm
2. Pose reflective questions. For example, if the student(s) introduce a lost brother for the character, ask “What if the missing sibling was a girl, how would this affect the character’s choices? What if the missing sibling is a fraud, how would this affect the character’s choices?”. Also try to make them be clear; “What choices does this situation create for the character? What does he/she have to lose or gain?”. This may widen the children’s perspective of the opening scene.
3. Select stories that the children are familiar with and read out the inciting incident and discuss how that is connected to the exposition of that story. This will help understand this section better
4. Whatever the students create, introduce a variation to enhance their creative thinking. For example introduce a quality of the character that they never thought of (e.g. he/she runs very fast, is fearless, is very fearful, has a magic power, etc.).