

Novel Parts

There are 4 parts to every novel-- or story for that matter: Exposition, Complication, Climax, and Resolution

Exposition

This is the first stage to setting up the story within the novel. At this point, the protagonist and setting are introduced.

Complication

In this second stage, the antagonist is introduced. The antagonist often provides the conflict for the story, but it may also come from other areas such as setting.

Rising Action

The suspense or increased tension that is caused by conflict between the protagonist and antagonist.

Two Types of Conflict

Internal

Conflict between man and himself. He the conflict is in the mind of the character -- hence, "internal."

Example: Billy loves Sally but is conflicted about telling her. If he doesn't, his love will remain unrequited. If he tells her, and she rejects him, their friendship will change forever. What is poor Billy to do?!?!?

External

Conflict between man and an outside force like another man, nature, or society.

Example: James finds out that Billy has feeling for Sally. It turns out that James also has feelings for Sally. Billy's conflict is external in that he must now deal with James.

Climax

In this 3rd stage, sometimes referred to as the *turning point*, the protagonist either achieves his goal or fails due to the antagonist. All conflicts and rising actions end here.

Two Types of Climax

Technical Climax: This type of climax refers to the event that leads to the turning point in the story.

Dramatic Climax: The specific moment of the highest interest and intensity.

Resolution

Sometimes called the *Denouement*.

In this 4th stage, we are presented with the falling action. This is the part of the story where all the loose ends are tied up...or not. Maybe there's a sequel in the works!

