



Story Reader's Framework

Use the Elements of Fiction to Interpret a Story

<i>CCSS reading literature 2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development</i>	
THEME What is the theme—the central idea ?	<i>CCSS reading literature 5: structure of the story</i>
PLOT > What will happen? (structure of a story) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does it begin? (exposition) • How does it continue? (rising action) • What is the climax? (turning point) • What happens after that? (falling action) • How does it end? (resolution) • 	
<i>CCSS reading literature: CCSS 3: character development; 1: read closely, analyze, infer with evidence</i>	
CHARACTERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Who are the main characters? > What are their traits? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How does the writer communicate those traits?</i> • <i>dialogue to help readers understand the characters?</i> • <i>use actions they take to help readers understand their traits—and the theme?</i> • <i>tell the character's thoughts and feelings?</i> > How do they feel about each other? (relationships) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How do readers learn that?</i> > How does a main character change? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What causes that change?</i> 	
<i>CCSS 5—how does the writer communicate?</i>	
SETTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Where and when does it take place? (setting) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How do readers “see” that place?</i> • <i>How do readers know what that time is?</i> • How does the setting create a mood or atmosphere? 	
<i>CCSS reading literature 3: plot;</i>	
PROBLEM OR CONFLICT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What problem or conflict do the characters face? ➤ How do they solve it or resolve it? 	
<i>CCSS reading literature 6: point of view</i>	
POINT OF VIEW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Who narrates? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A character from the story</i> • <i>A narrator who is just telling the events but not explaining the story (third person)</i> • <i>A narrator who is not part of the story but who tells us what the characters are thinking (third person omniscient)</i> 	

For more information and examples of the elements of fiction, go to
<http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/lit>