

English 9 Published Short Story Assignment Overview

1. Write a short story that demonstrates the following:
 - a. Understanding of how to apply the Elements of Western Narrative (see below)
 - b. Understanding of how to apply a range of Literary Devices (see below)
 - c. Understanding of how to apply the Western Narrative Three Act Structure (see below)
 - d. Application of the Six Step Narrative Writing Process (see below)
 - e. Approximation of the use of the Taxonomy of Creative Design (see below)
 - f. Application of the Zone of Proximal Development when you self-reflect on the writing process and what you learned through this process (see below)

2. Work through the entire process, which should include:
 - a. Journal entries related to the story
 - b. Rough notes related to the story
 - c. Character studies / character development writings
 - d. Notes on the premise that:
 - i. State the point of view that you will use
 - ii. Provide a rough description of the setting (focus on the “storyverse”)
 - iii. Provide notes on the major plot points
 - iv. State the theme of the story
 - e. Rough draft (paper and pencil) that demonstrates that you have worked through the revision process
 - f. Final manuscript – revised, edited, and ready for submission for publication (typed and printed, following the format for the assignment)

3. Your story will be published on the course website and will be shared with others students. You have the option to password protecting it so that the public cannot read it without the password. You have the option of publishing under a different name from your own name. The story should:
 - a. Be engaging
 - b. Be original
 - c. Follow the conventions of genre
 - d. Reflect your own style and voice
 - e. At best, be memorable (be jaw droppingly amazing to read or hear)

4. When you have finished your story, you will reflect on the process and provide evidence that you worked through the process (all steps).

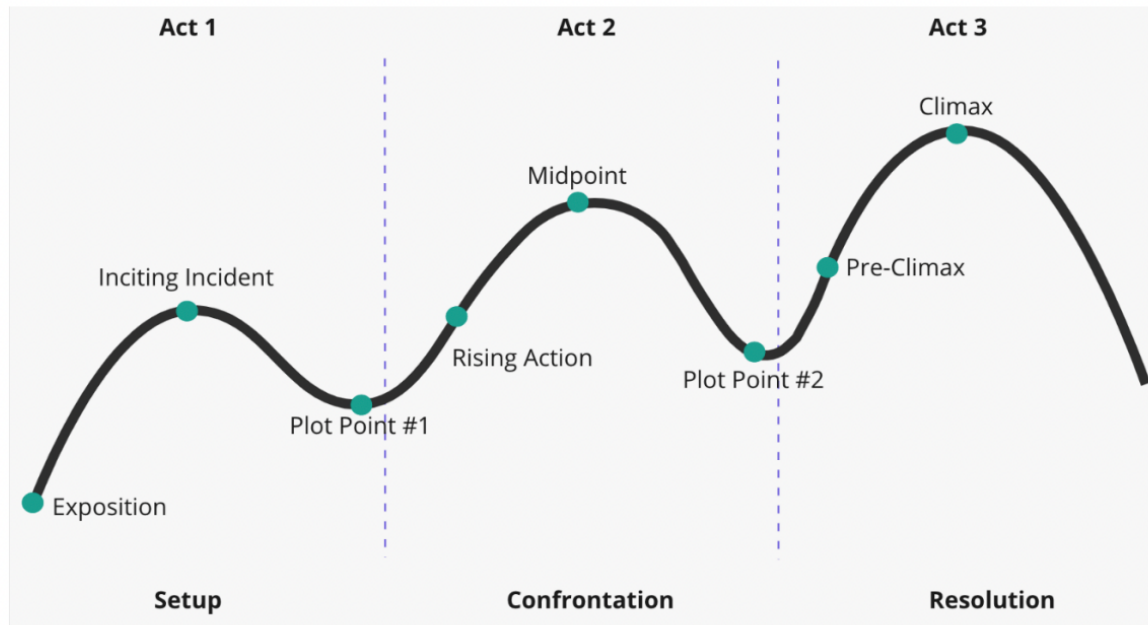
LITERARY DEVICES

- allegory
- allusion
- cliffhanger
- foreshadowing
- irony, situational irony, and dramatic irony
- metaphor, simile, and analogy
- motif
- paradox
- personification
- satire
- sensory imagery
- suspense
- symbolism
- verisimilitude
- vignette

SIX STEP NARRATIVE WRITING PROCESS

#1: Develop the Theme	Journal, rough note, observation, question, connect, reflect, wander as you develop a theme
#2: Develop the Premise	This is when you decide on point of view, setting (usually only the storyverse at this point), main plot points, and lock in the theme
#3: Develop the Characters	This is when you develop the main characters, focusing on their strengths and weaknesses and their possible <i>relationships</i> to the conflict
#4: Develop the Plot	Start with the conflict (internal to the main characters) and work from there, you may have the entire plot planned out or you may just have a rough sense of the three acts (having a sense of the resolution can help)
#5: Play with Style	Start by putting your characters into situations and settings...
#6: Write the Story	When are ready, start writing out the story (any order can work)... one thing to keep in mind is that it's usually best to write an entire draft first, before you start revising and editing. Just do it!

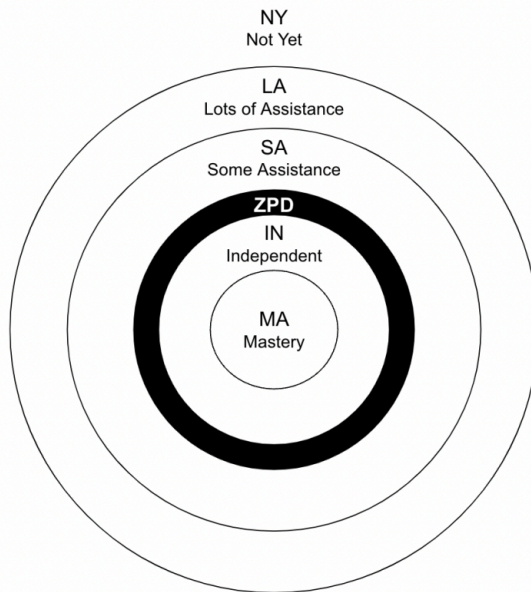
WESTERN NARRATIVE THREE ACT STRUCTURE



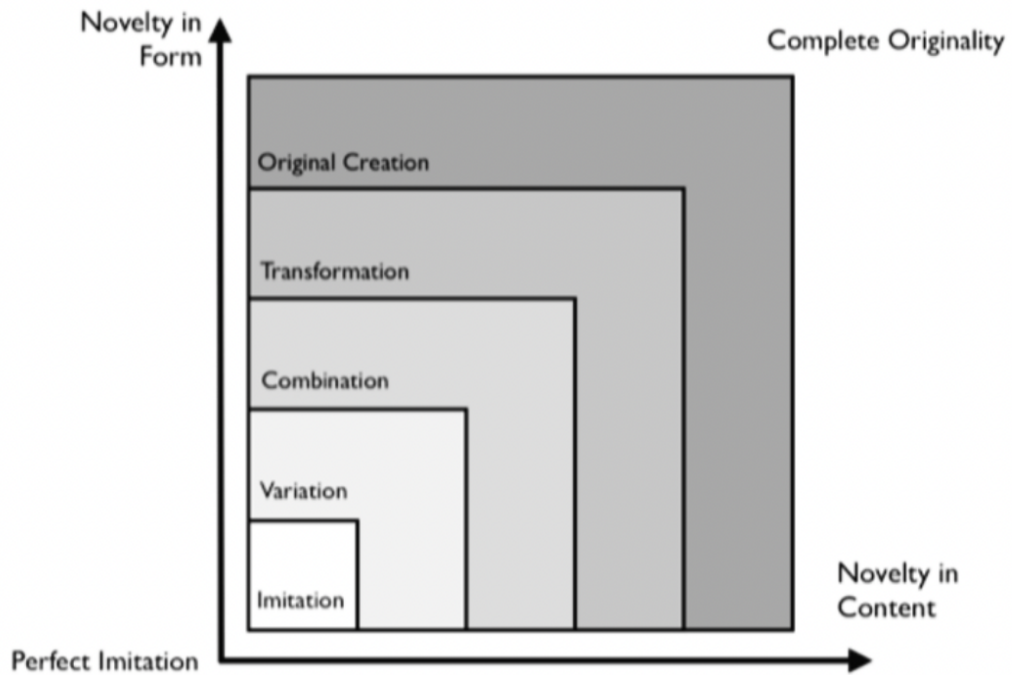
ELEMENTS OF WESTERN NARRATIVE

Characterization	The development of characters through the progression of the narrative (or the telling of it) Characters often have conflicting strengths and weaknesses	<i>Filler</i>
Plot	Action across time (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, denouement) (see three act structure below)	<i>Form Flow Filler</i>
Conflict	Conflict: Struggle between forces, conflict between characters, inner conflict (within characters), and conflict of action (plot)	<i>Focus</i>
	Resolution: More than the end of conflict but also the transformation that occurs through the resolution of conflict	
Point of View	The perspective the story is told from (first person, third person limited, third person omniscient) (the narrator or storyteller)	<i>Form</i>
Setting	“Storyverse”: Time and place of the story itself (can cross times and places), the era or age of the story	<i>Filler</i>
	Scenes and backdrops: Settings throughout various plot points	
Theme	The moral, or point, of a narrative or the overarching ideas and emotions (or experiences/realities) explored through a narrative	<i>Focus</i>
Tone	The author’s attitude toward a character (tone is also an element of style)	<i>Feeling</i>
Style	The unique voice of the author, how the author uses language (diction, voice, tone, sentence style, use of literary devices)	<i>Feeling</i>

Zone of Proximal Development



Taxonomy of Creative Design



Author: Peter Nilsson