# ANALYZING SHORT STORY ELEMENTS

revised: kf/2020

1. Your task:

a. Read over the Short Story Elements sheet.

b. Analyze all four short stories by looking for the elements.

c. Write phrases/sentences to answer each of the elements.

d. Use this sheet as your template.

e. Please turn in as one document. I will have a file where you can upload it.

**2. \_AUTHOR FULL NAME:\_** Raymond Douglas Bradbury**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Short story title” in quotes: ”A Sound of Thunder”**

**A. Setting: (fill in as many as apply)**

1. Place: Time Safari Inc, and somewhere on earth
2. Time: 2055 and 60000000 years bc
3. Weather conditions: Fog as the Machine Lands that quickly clears
4. Social conditions: Tension between all of the main characters
5. mood/atmosphere: Ominous, Expansive

**B. Plot: de*scribe each part of the plot***

1. Introduction (setting/char): Eckels walks into Time Safari Inc, meets Mr. Travis and his hunting group
2. Rising action: The hunting group travels back in time and gets prepared for the hunt and are warned not to touch anything for risk of messing up the future.
3. Climax: They shoot the Tyrannosaurus rex, but Eckels becomes afraid, accidentally steps off the path and crushes a butterfly
4. Falling Action: They travel back to the future and they notice that it has changed for the worse.
5. Denouement: Eckles notices the butterfly on the bottom of his boot and Mr. Travis shoots him where he stood.

**C. Conflict:**

1. Type: External/Internal – explain: Internal conflict because Eckles has to fight his fear
2. Kind: Choose one and explain**:** Person vs. Self Because Eckles is fighting himself to stay on the trail and to try to control his fear.

**D. Character: *Choose the most important characters (add more categories if needed)***

1. Protagonist’s name: Eckles

Characteristics of Eckles

Eckles is a timid character who is easily frightened. He lets this fear control him, which caused a complete upheaval of time.

Type of char. – individual, developing, static

Eckles is a developing character, as he begins the story careless for the world he is traveling to and ends the story cruelly aware of the effects of his crimes.

**E. Point of View**

1. Type?
   1. Third person limited
2. Why?
   1. The story focuses on the characters from an exterior perspective, but it doesn’t know any of the characters’ direct thoughts, only their words and actions.

**F. Theme: The ability for Humans to destroy themselves with Technology**

Eckles destroys and manipulates humanity’s entire history by accidentally wandering off the path.

3. Citation for this short story in MLA format.

Bradbury, Ray. *A Sound of Thunder*. Stony Brook University Astronomy, <http://www.astro.sunysb.edu/fwalter/AST389/ASoundofThunder.pdf>. Accessed April 6, 2020.