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CREATIVE WRITING

Quarter 1 – Module 7:

ELEMENTS OF FICTION – FOCUS ON POINT OF VIEW

Polytechnic College of Botolan · Botolan, Zambales

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. READ THE DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY.
2. DO NOT WRITE ANYTHING ON THIS MODULE.
3. PROVIDE ANSWER SHEETS FOR YOUR ANSWER.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

OBJECTIVES

At the end of the lesson, the students should be able to:

1. Determine various modes of fiction;
2. Distinguish different types of plot; and
3. Develop a short story that involves essential elements of plot.



PRE-TEST

TURN UP YOUR KNOWLEDGE:

Analyze the following events and number them according to their logical sequence.

Sequence the event!

Adam the Runner

Place the events in the correct sequence by using the numbers 1-6:

- _____ Adam ran up and down the stadium steps three times.
- _____ He took a shower.
- _____ Adam stretched his muscles for 10 minutes.
- _____ He ate a large breakfast.
- _____ Adam did twenty laps around the track.
- _____ He ran all the way home.

Sequence the event!

The Writing Process

Place the events in the correct sequence by using the numbers 1-7:

- _____ Prewriting exercises provide key words, meaning, and structure to.
- _____ Identify your audience.
- _____ Intentionally separate "proofreading" from the "writing"
- _____ If a topic is not assigned, identify a subject that interest you.
- _____ develop your time line: allow for editing, revision and unexpected developments.
- _____ Take time to revise your work.
- _____ Start the draft and keep it right.



LESSON PROPER

GEAR-UP YOUR MIND:

Plot – How the author arranges events to develop the basic idea; it is the sequence of events in a story or play. The plot is a planned, logical series of events having a beginning, middle, and end. The short story usually has one plot so it can be read in one setting.

There are four primary types of plots (modified from Anderson, 2006, & Lukens, 2007):

1. **Episodic** - are structures made up of series of chapters or stories linked together by the same character, place, or theme but held apart by their individual plot, purpose, and subject. In fact, the chapters or stories could be shuffled around and placed in a different order if desired because there is no overall beginning, middle, and end to the book or story as a whole.

One example of this is the Chicken Soup for the Soul series. These books have an overall theme to them, yet each chapter has different story to illustrate that theme.

This structure can be either plot driven or character driven. Keep in mind that a “place can be considered a character if it is the central figure in each episode. If the story is **character driven**, you will most likely have at least one character showing up in every episode, using this character as the driving force in each story. If the story is **plot driven**, you will see a similar character, place, or theme in each chapter or story, but the driving force will be the events within each.

2. **Linear** - consists of a series of events starting with a beginning, middle, and ending with a conclusion. It presents stories in a logical manner by telling what happens from one point in time to the next without using flashbacks or flash-forwards and then returning to the present. On the other hand, a non-linear plot structure consists of a series of events that are out of order. Authors and filmmakers mainly use non-linear plot to copy the structure and recall of human memory.
3. **Cumulative** – plots with lots of repetition of phrases, sentences, or events with one new aspect added with each repetition. *The Gingerbread Man* and *The Great, Big Enormous Turnip* are examples of cumulative plots.
4. **Circular** – the characters in the story end up in the same place that they were at the beginning of the story. Examples of circular stories are *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* and *Where the Wild Things Are*.

There are five essential parts of plot:

1. **Exposition (introduction)** – Beginning of the story; characters, background, and setting revealed.
2. **Rising Action** – Events in the story become complicated; the conflict is revealed. These are events between the introduction and climax.

Conflict – Essential to plot, opposition ties incidents together and moves the plot. Not merely limited to arguments, conflict can be any form of struggle the main character faces. Within a short story, there may be only one central struggle, or there may be many minor obstacles within a dominant struggle. There are two types of conflict:

- **Internal** – Struggle within one’s self.
 - **Man vs. Self** – Struggle with own soul, physical limitations, choices, etc.
- **External** – Struggle with a force outside one’s self.
 - **Man vs. Character** – Struggles against other people.
 - **Man vs. Nature** – Struggles against animals, weather, environment, etc.
 - **Man vs. Society** – Struggles against ideas, practices, or customs of others.
- 3. **Climax** – turning point of the story. Reader’s wonders what will happen next; will the conflict be resolved or not? Consider the climax as a three-fold phenomenon:
 - Main character receives new information.
 - Main character accepts this information (realizes it but does not necessarily agree with it).
 - Main character acts on this information (makes a choice that will determine whether or not the objective is met).
- 4. **Falling action** – Resolution begins; events and complications start to fall into place. These are the events between climax and denouement.
- 5. **Resolution (Conclusion or Denouement)** – Final outcome of events in the story.

Read the short story “**The Man told the Story of His Life**” by Grace Paley. As you read see if you can identify some elements of fiction.

1. *Vicente said:* I wanted to be a doctor. I wanted to be a doctor with my whole heart.
2. I learned every bone, every organ in the body. What is it for? Why does it work?
3. The school said to me: Vicente, be an engineer. That would be good. You understand mathematics.
4. I said to the school: I want to be a doctor. I already know how the organs connect. When something goes wrong, I'll understand how to make repairs.
5. The school said: Vicente, you will really be an excellent engineer. You show on all tests what a good engineer you will be. It doesn't show whether you'll be a good doctor.
6. I said: oh, I long to be a doctor. I nearly cried. I was seventeen. I said: but perhaps you're right. You're right. You're the teacher. You're the principal. I know I'm young.
7. The school said: and besides, you're going into the army.
8. And then I was made a cook. I prepared food for two thousands men.
9. Now you see me. I have a good job. I have three children. This is my wife, Consuela. Did you

- know I saved her life?
10. Look, she suffered pain. The doctor said: what is this? Are you tired? Have you had too much company? How many children? Rest overnight, then tomorrow we'll make tests.
 11. The next morning I called the doctor. I said: she must be operated immediately. I have looked in the book. I see where her pain is. I understand what pressure is, where it comes from. I see clearly the organ that is making trouble.
 12. The doctor made a test. He said: she must be operated at once. He said to me: Vicente, how did you know?

Now ask yourself: what conflict does the narrator experience in the course of this story? What is the theme of this story? What central idea does it convey?

You can infer that the conflict is between societal pressure and individual desire. Vicente wants to be a doctor, but everyone tries to discourage him. After all, the central idea focuses on how misguided advice from authorities can lead people to waste their talents. Vicente clearly should have become a doctor – he had the passion, and instincts to become a good one. The story conveys the idea that people are most fulfilled if they pursue their dreams.

LEVEL-UP YOUR LEARNING: ACTIVITY 1

Choose a topic that you want to write about. Make sure to include the five essential parts of the plot.

- 1) A jewel – encrusted box is found in an ancient abandoned temple. Describe the box, what is in the box, and the temple. See where it takes you.
- 2) Write a short story about an embarrassing, or painful incident that happened to you.
- 3) Three characters enter a room; an old embittered woman, angry at life and full of regret, a young idealistic boy, and a mother of a newborn baby. How does each character describe the room?

Your work will be graded based on the following criteria:

- a) **Believable characters/Character Development**
- b) **Setting**
- c) **Flow (beginning, inciting)**
- d) **Plot Development**
- e) **Creativity**
- f) **Organization**
- g) **Title**

See rubric below for your scoring guide and criteria.

CREATIVE STORY CRITERIA	4- Excellent	3- Good	2- Progressing	1- Not Yet
CHARACTER	The main characters are named and clearly described. Most readers could describe the characters accurately.	The main characters are named and described. Most readers would have some idea of what the characters looked like.	The main characters are named. The reader knows very little about the characters.	It is hard to tell who the main characters are.
SETTING	Many vivid, descriptive words are used to tell when and where the story took place.	Some vivid descriptive words are used to tell the audience when and where the story took place.	The reader figure out when and where the story took place, but the author didn't supply much detail.	The reader has the trouble figuring out when and where the story took place.
ENGAGING BEGINNING	Beginning of a story has a very creative "grabber". The reader is pulled into the story.	Beginning of a story has some type of "grabber". The reader is pulled into the story.	Catchy beginning was attempted but did not grab the reader's attention	No attempt was to catch the reader's attention in the beginning of the story. Story begins

				abruptly or awkwardly.
INCITING INCIDENT/RISING ACTION	It is very easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face and why it is a problem	It is fairly easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face and why it is a problem	It is fairly easy for the reader to understand the problem the main characters face but it is not clear why it is a problem.	It is not clear what problem the main characters face
ORGANIZATION	The story is very well organized. One idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	The story is pretty well organized. One idea or scene may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The story is little hard to follow. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	Ideas and scenes seem to be randomly arranged.
CREATIVITY	The story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his/her imagination.	There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination.
ELEMENTS OF A SHORT STORYPLOT	The story reflects an advanced understanding of Plot, Elements of a Short Story Plot (introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)	The story reflects a thorough understanding of; Plot, Elements of a Short Story Plot(introduction, Rising action, Climax, Falling action, resolution)	The story reflects some understanding of: Plot, Elements of a Short Story Plot(introduction, Rising action, Climax, Falling action, resolution, reader relates to them, used to drive plot and create mood) and conflict	The story reflects a little understanding of : Plot, Setting (place, time, mood) Characters (reader relates to them, used to drive plot and create mood) and conflict
TITLE	Title is creative, sparks interest and is related to the story and topic.	Title is related to the story and topic.	Title is present, but does not appear to be related to the story topic.	No title



SUMMARY

Plot is the arrangement of events that make up a story. Many fictional plots turn on a conflict, or struggle between opposing forces, that is usually resolved by the end of the story. Typical fictional plots begin with an exposition that provides background information needed to make sense of the action, describes the setting, and introduces the major characters; these plots develop a series of complications or intensification of the conflict that lead to a crisis or moment of great tension. The conflict may reach a climax or turning point, a moment of greatest tension that fixes the outcome; then, the actions falls off as the plot's complications are sorted out and resolved the resolution or denouement.



GENERALIZATION

1. Enumerate the various modes of fictions.

2. List down the different types of plot.
3. Give the essential elements of plot.

References

Jose, P. L., & Larioque, R. R. (2017). *Creative Writing*. Mandaluyong City: Books Atbp. Publishing Corp.



FEEDBACK

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