

Plot Outline Template





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WHAT IS A THREE ACT STRUCTURE?

The three-act structure is a common framework used in storytelling. Each act serves a specific purpose in **advancing the plot and developing the characters.**

Some of the most celebrated novels and films in history use a 3-act structure, including bestsellers like **The Hunger Games**. It's a framework that you should edit to suit you. Stray from it wherever you want!

Use the table either as a guide to brainstorm your story's structure, or as a way to outline all your major story beats. If you're a bit stuck, check out the **Plot Outline Workbook** where I take you step-by-step through each major story beat.



WHAT'S THAT?



YOUR SECRET WEAPON AGAINST WRITER'S BLOCK

“Just purchased this a few days ago and I already have more than half of my story mapped out! It’s so helpful. The workbook just doesn’t help you plot the story but also makes sure you’re mindful of the character’s motives and development throughout.”



Anam



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PLOT STRUCTURE
WORKBOOK

HOW TO FILL THE 3 ACT STRUCTURE GRID

Hook: The opening designed to captivate the audience's attention and establish the story's tone and setting.

Inciting Incident: An event that disrupts the status quo & initiates the central conflict, propelling the protagonist into action.

First Plot Point: A pivotal moment at the end of Act 1 where the protagonist commits to the central conflict, launching the main journey. E.g. they agree to a quest.

Rising Action: The series of events that develops the central conflict, introduces obstacles, and heightens tension leading toward the climax.

Midpoint: A significant event or revelation occurring in the middle of the story, often altering the narrative's direction or deepening complexity.

Second Plot Point: Another major turning point at the end of Act 2 that propels the story toward the climax by introducing a significant obstacle or revelation.

Pre-climax: The events leading up to the climax, where tension reaches its peak, setting the stage for the climax.

Climax: The story's turning point where the protagonist faces the main conflict head-on, determining the resolution and outcome.

Denouement: The aftermath of the climax, providing closure to the story, resolving subplots, and showing the characters in their new state or changed reality.

LET'S PLOT!



ACT I

Hook / Exposition	
Inciting Incident	
First Plot Point	

ACT 2

Rising Action	
Midpoint	
Second Plot Point	

ACT 3

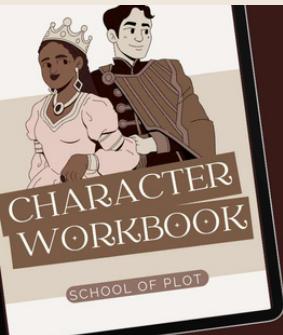
Pre-Climax	
Climax	
Denouement	



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