

Name: _____

Date: _____

Plot—3rd or 4th Grade

Every story has a **plot**, or a sequence of events. There are five parts to a good **plot**.

Beginning—the story begins and characters are introduced

Rising Action—something happens to make the story more interesting; the characters have a problem

Climax—the most suspenseful part of the story; the characters must finally face their problems and make decisions

Falling Action—the character has made a decision about how to handle the problem, and now the story is coming to a close

End—the story concludes as the action comes to an end

Exercise:

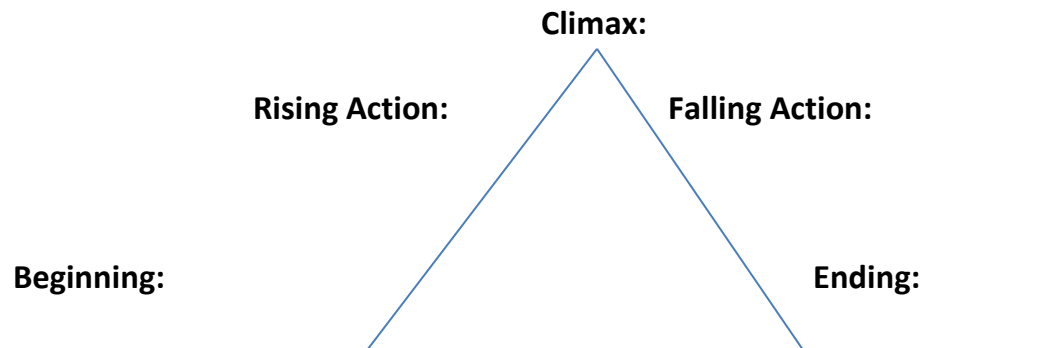
Read the following version of “The Tortoise and the Hare.” Then, list the events of the story on the plot diagram below.

A speedy hare bragged about how fast he could run. He challenged Tortoise to a race, and all of the animals in the forest gathered to watch.

When the race started, Hare ran very quickly down the road, while Tortoise plodded along slowly. Hare yelled back to him, “You will never win this race! You are too slow!” Then, Hare decided he had time to rest, and he fell asleep.

Tortoise continued to move along slowly, and while Hare slept, he passed Hare and headed toward the finish line. The other animals cheered loudly for Tortoise as he got closer. When their cheers woke Hare up, he could see that Tortoise was almost at the finish line. He tried to catch up to Tortoise, but it was too late. Tortoise won the race.

All of the animals cheered, and Hare no longer bragged about how fast he could run. He had learned a lesson: Slow and steady wins the race.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Answers--Plot—3rd or 4th Grade

Every story has a **plot**, or a sequence of events. There are five parts to a good **plot**.

Beginning—the story begins and characters are introduced

Rising Action—something happens to make the story more interesting; the characters have a problem

Climax—the most suspenseful part of the story; the characters must finally face their problems and make decisions

Falling Action—the character has made a decision about how to handle the problem, and now the story is coming to a close

End—the story concludes as the action comes to an end

Wording of answers may vary, but students should get the basic plot points.

Exercise:

Read the following version of “The Tortoise and the Hare.” Then, list the events of the story on the plot diagram below.

A speedy hare bragged about how fast he could run. He challenged Tortoise to a race, and all of the animals in the forest gathered to watch.

When the race started, Hare ran very quickly down the road, while Tortoise plodded along slowly. Hare yelled back to him, “You will never win this race! You are too slow!” Then, Hare decided he had time to rest, and he fell asleep.

Tortoise continued to move along slowly, and while Hare slept, he passed Hare and headed toward the finish line. The other animals cheered loudly for Tortoise as he got closer. When their cheers woke Hare up, he could see that Tortoise was almost at the finish line. He tried to catch up to Tortoise, but it was too late. Tortoise won the race.

All of the animals cheered, and Hare no longer bragged about how fast he could run. He had learned a lesson: Slow and steady wins the race.

