**Plot Structure**

Climax

Falling Action

Rising Action

Inciting Incident

Dénouement/Resolution

Exposition

**Exposition**: The beginning of the story (introduction), often the way things are before any action occurs.

**Inciting Incident**: Initial event that triggers the rest of the story. Puts everything in the story into motion. Can be vague and not easy to initially spot.

**Rising Action**: The series of conflicts that lead to the climax (pinnacle) of the story.

**Climax:** The most exciting part of the story. The pinnacle of the action; the highlight. Often the point of the most danger or action to the protagonist (main character).

**Falling Action**: The events that transpire after the climax. They lead towards the resolution of the story.

**Resolution/Dénouement**: The conclusion of the story. Usually involves a release of tension (catharsis).