



The Open Window

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جامعة ساوة

كلية التربية

قسم اللغة الانكليزية

المرحلة الثانية

رقم المحاضرة 3

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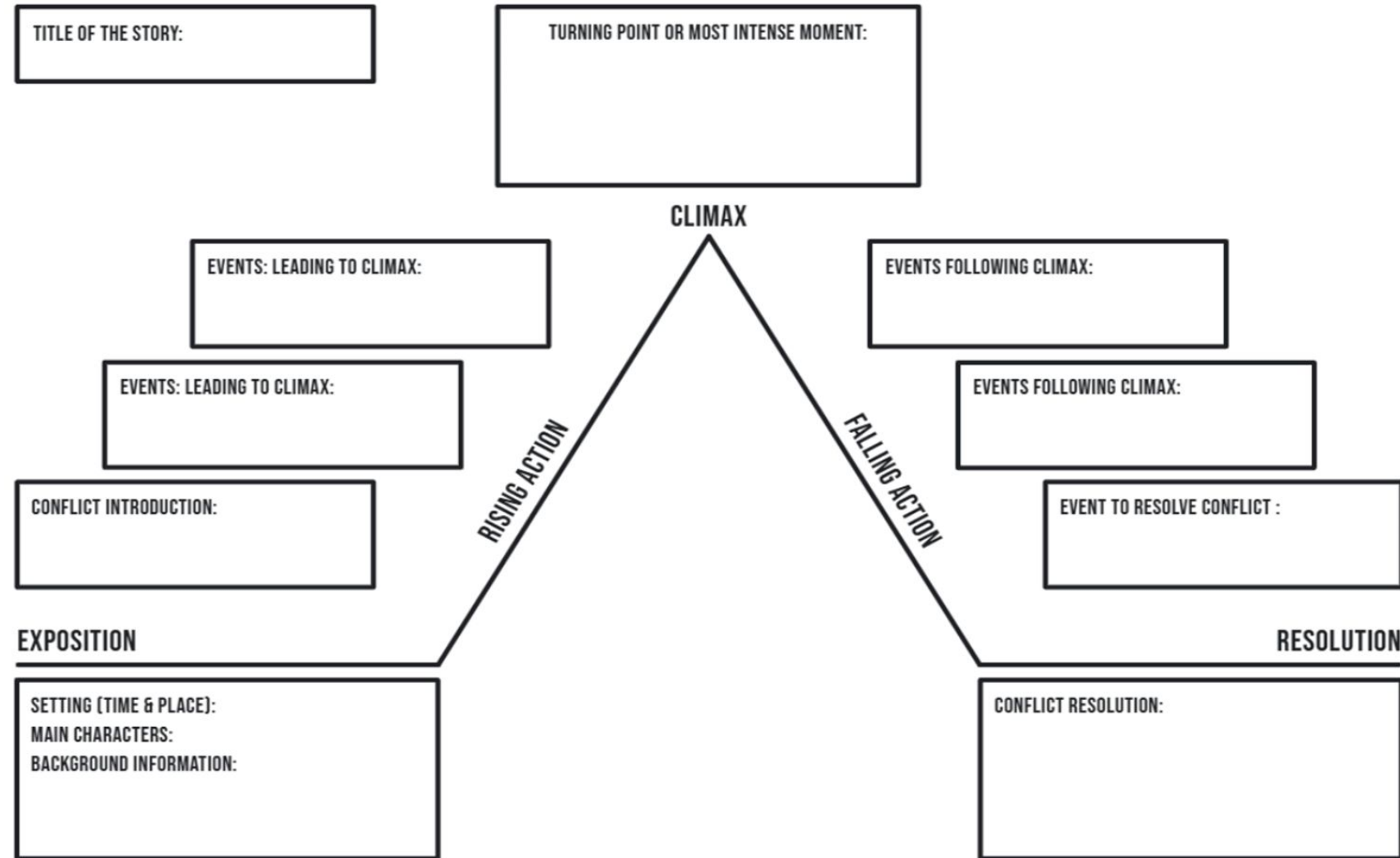
Characters

Framton Nuttel: the victim. He is a very nervous man who is seeking a 'nerve cure' in the countryside. He is an outsider who is easily susceptible to suggestion.

Vera: the antagonist/prankster. She is a 15-year-old girl described as "very confident". She is bored and has a vivid imagination. Ironically, her name comes from the Latin word for truth (veritas).

Mrs Sappleton: Vera's aunt. She is a kind woman who is unaware of her niece's mischief.

PLOT DIAGRAM GRAPHIC ORGANIZER TEMPLATE



Plot Diagram

Exposition: A man named Framton Nuttel is visiting the Sappletons. He has to wait for Mrs. Sappleton, so 15-year old Vera keeps him company. "'My aunt will be down presently, Mr. [Framton] Nuttel,' said a very self-possessed young lady of fifteen, 'in the meantime you must try and put up with me.'"

Rising Action: Vera explains the tragedy, and tells Framton that they keep the window open in memory of Mr. Sappleton. After talking with Vera for a while, Nuttel is introduced to Mrs. Sappleton. Mrs. Sappleton talks on about her husband and brothers, who Vera has just explained are dead. Framton believes Mrs. Sappleton is insane, and tries to avoid the subject of the husband. "She rattled on cheerfully about the shooting and scarcity of birds...to Framton it was all purely horrible."

Plot Diagram

Climax: As the sun begins setting, three figures walk across the lawn and can be seen from the window. "In the deepening twilight three figures were walking across the lawn towards the window, they all carried guns under their arms."

Falling Action: Framton, frightened upon realizing the figures are the ghosts of the Sappletons, grabs his things and leaves the house to escape the assumed ghosts. "Framton grabbed wildly at his stick and hat; the hall door, the gravel drive, and the front gate were dimly noted stages in his headlong retreat."

Resolution: The family thinks Framton is crazy because he ran away, and it is revealed that the Sappleton "ghosts" are just figments of Vera's "romance at short notice" (skill at telling stories). 'A most extraordinary man, Mr. Nuttel,' said Mrs. Sappleton... 'One would think he had seen a ghost.'"



Themes

- Appearances and Reality
- Sanity and Insanity
- Deception and Storytelling: Vera's power comes from her ability to craft a convincing story, complete with details (the white coat, the singing).