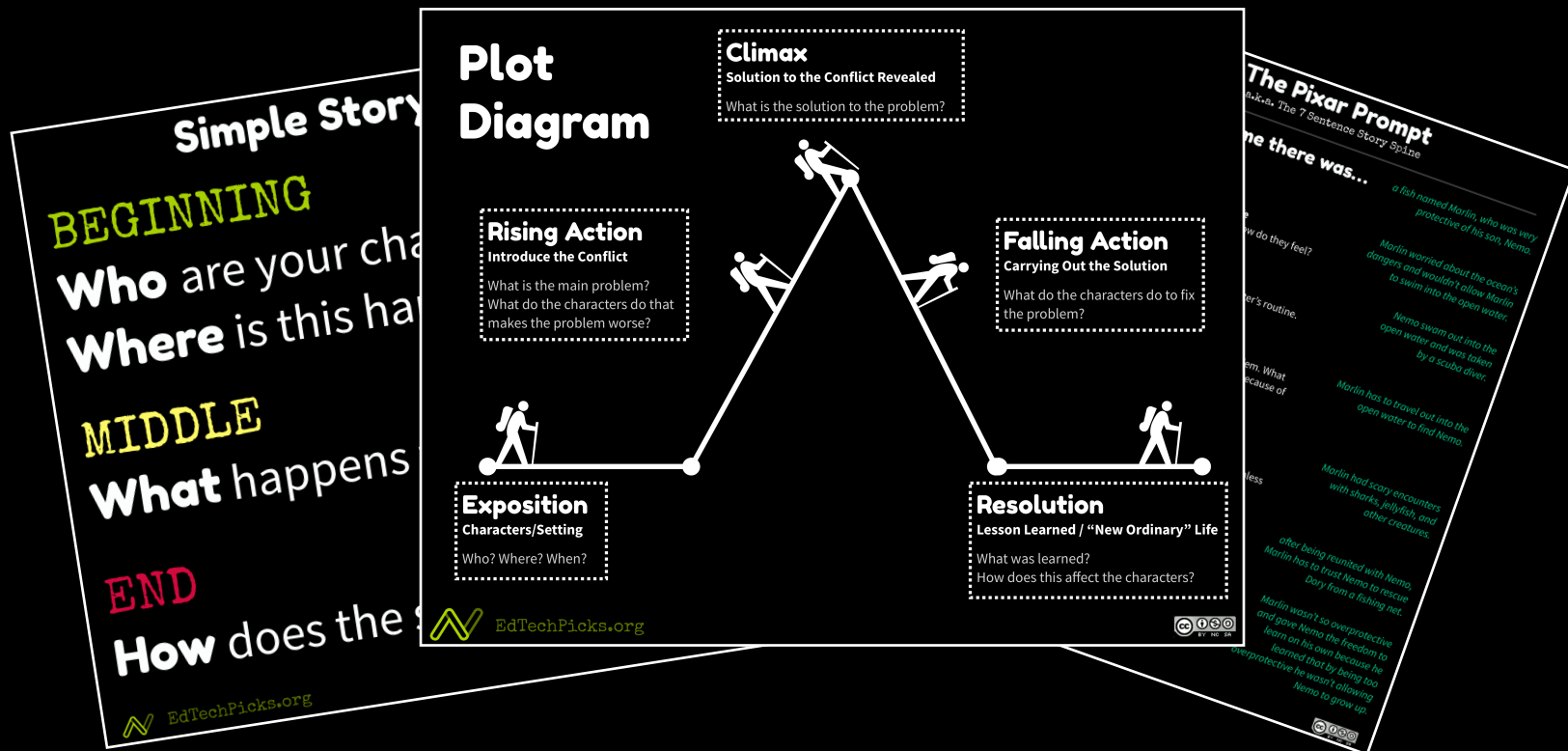


Story Structure



Simple Story Sequence

BEGINNING

Who are your characters?

Where is this happening?

MIDDLE

What happens to the characters?

END

How does the story end?

The Pixar Prompt

a.k.a. The 7 Sentence Story Spine

Once upon a time there was...

Characters and Setting

a fish named Marlin, who was very protective of his son, Nemo.

Every day...

Character's Routine / Ordinary Life

What does the main character do? How do they feel?

Marlin worried about the ocean's dangers and wouldn't allow Marlin to swim into the open water.

Until one day...

Event / Problem.

Something happens to disrupt the character's routine.

Nemo swam out into the open water and was taken by a scuba diver.

Because of that...

Consequence 1

The character begins trying to solve their problem. What about the character and their routine changes because of the event?.

Marlin has to travel out into the open water to find Nemo.

Because of that...

Consequence 2

If your character solves all of their problems with one "because of that," it's probably a pretty boring story (unless you have a VERY short story).

Marlin had scary encounters with sharks, jellyfish, and other creatures.

Until finally...

Solution

The main character succeeds or fails.

after being reunited with Nemo, Marlin has to trust Nemo to rescue Dory from a fishing net.

And ever since then...

Moral of the Story / Lesson Learned / "New" Ordinary Life

What was learned? How does this affect the main character?
How does this change their routine?

Marlin wasn't so overprotective and gave Nemo the freedom to learn on his own because he learned that by being too overprotective he wasn't allowing Nemo to grow up.

Plot Diagram

Climax

Solution to the Conflict Revealed

What is the solution to the problem?

Rising Action

Introduce the Conflict

What is the main problem?

What do the characters do that makes the problem worse?

Falling Action

Carrying Out the Solution

What do the characters do to fix the problem?

Exposition

Characters/Setting

Who? Where? When?

Resolution

Lesson Learned / "New Ordinary" Life

What was learned?

How does this affect the characters?

