

## How to Get a Story to Talk

| Question:  | Answer:   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. What is the <b>plot</b> structure of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the exposition, initial incident, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution (your story may not have all of these).</li> <li>• Are there any flashbacks?</li> </ul>  | <p>Exposition –</p> <p>Inciting Incident –</p> <p>Rising Action –</p> <p>Climax –</p> <p>Falling Action –</p> <p>Resolution –</p> <p>Flashbacks –</p> |
| <p>2. Who are the main <b>characters</b> in the story? (There will rarely be more than three central characters in a short story.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the characteristics of these characters?</li> <li>• What is their relationship to each other?</li> <li>• Do any of the characters change during the course of the story? What epiphanies do they have?</li> </ul> |   |
| <p>3. What is the <b>setting</b> of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the time, season, country, and location?</li> <li>• Does the setting play an important role in the story, or is it simply the place where things happen?</li> </ul>  |   |
| <p>4. What is the <b>tone</b> of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What feeling word would best describe the tone?</li> </ul>  |   |
| <p>5. What is the <b>theme</b> of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the theme of the story directly stated or implied?</li> <li>• What is the main idea about life presented in the story, summarized in one sentence?</li> </ul>   |   |
| <p>6. How do <b>you</b> react to the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you feel after reading the story?</li> <li>• What does the story make you think of?</li> <li>• Do you like the story?</li> </ul>   |   |