

Reading Activity: Story Map* - Graphic Organiser

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Objective : To enable learners to visualize a story in the form of a map organizing all the details systematically.

Participation : Individual

Material : Any short story – for instance, ‘The Selfish Giant’ by George Orwell

Preparation : Reading a story focusing on the different aspects that make up the story

Procedure

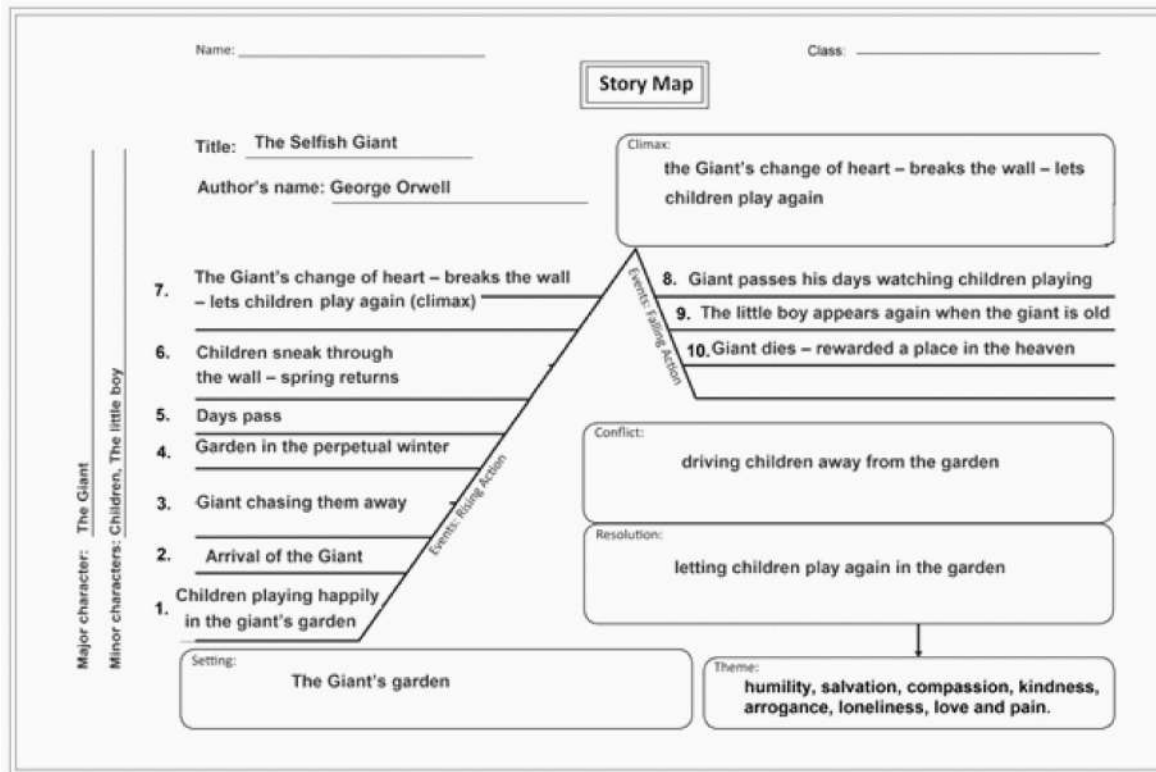
- ★ Read the story quickly to get a ***gist*** of it.
- ★ The next reading has to be thorough in order to tease out the ***structure*** of the story.
- ★ The process of identifying the elements of a story begins with the ***setting***, as any story usually starts off with setting the stage for the ***plot*** to develop.
- ★ Readers then should look for the ***characters*** and as the story progresses, for the characterization as well.
- ★ ***Conflict*** is one of the basic aspects without which no story can move forward – the conflict can be human vs human, human vs nature, human vs supernatural power, or within oneself.
- ★ Once the setting is described, characters are introduced and the conflict is revealed, the plot moves forward.
- ★ As event/episode after event/episode unfolds, the plot develops and reaches the ***climax***. After climax, there is a ***denouement***, the falling action wherein the loose threads are tied up. Stories can also end with a climax; the denouement is optional.
- ★ A critical ***analysis/appreciation*** can begin only after a reader has comprehended the basic components.

Learning Outcomes

1. Learners realize that a story can be thoroughly understood only when they tease out the different elements of it.
2. Learners recognize the fact that the short stories are more commonly read by all compared to other genres of literature but they are easily forgotten. Hence, a story map can easily jog their memory.

Further Reading: While reading any story a reader has to keep in mind its basic components for a comprehensive understanding.

***Story Map:** It is a kind of graphic organiser which displays all the components of a story in a visual form. This holistic view enables one to get the entire picture of a story at a single glance and enables a better understanding of it.



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