

Note Taking

AMERICAN DRAMA

Fill in the blanks to make complete sentences that will help you remember the conventions of drama.

1. In drama, a play that recounts the downfall of a main character is called a _____. On the other hand, a play that is light and humorous in tone and that usually ends happily is called a _____.
2. As in fiction, the **plot** of a play consists of five stages:

3. At the heart of the plot is a _____, or struggle between opposing forces.
4. _____ and _____ are divisions of the action of a play.
5. As in fiction, the _____ of a play is the central character. The _____ is a character who opposes the central character.
6. Some plays also include a _____ that is, a character who is less important but who provides a striking contrast to another character.
7. The _____ is a list of the names of all the characters in a play.
8. Much of what happens in a play is revealed through _____, or conversation between characters.
9. Playwrights sometimes include additional speech devices, such as _____.
10. _____ are italicized instructions that provide information about details such as setting, props, lighting, or a character's entrances and exits.