



# Chapter 1: Notes on Plot

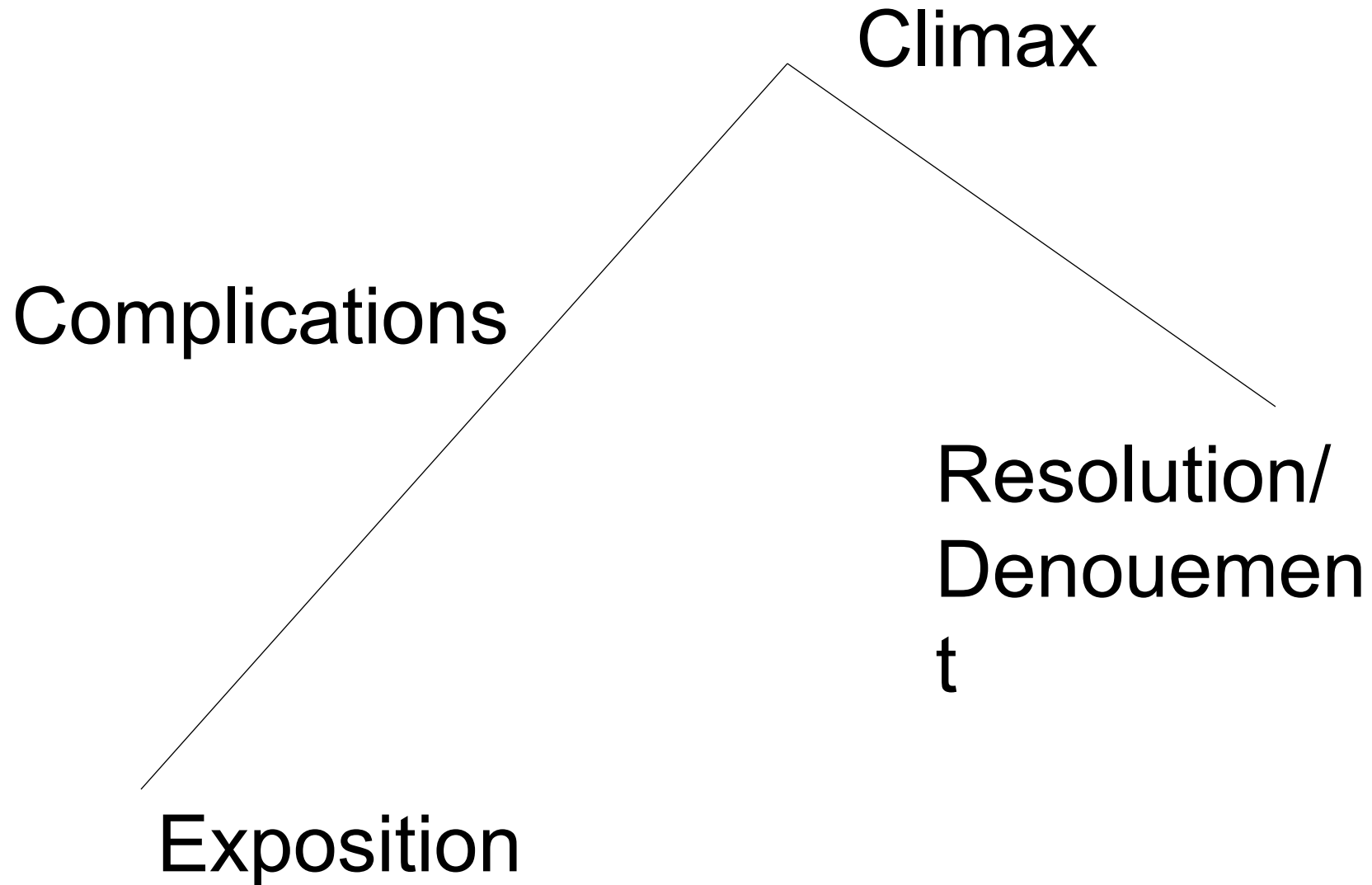
This will go on Page 5 in your notebook



# Plot

- A series of related events, each event connected to the next, like links in a chain.

# Plot Diagram





# Exposition (basic situation)

- Includes introduction of characters, **setting**
- Introduces the first initial conflict



# Setting

- when and where action of story takes place



# Conflict

- A struggle between two forces.
- There are 2 types:
  1. **External conflict:** takes place between two characters, between a character and a group, or between a character and an animal or a force in nature.
  2. **Internal conflict** is a struggle that takes place within a character's mind or heart.



# Complications

- The problems that come up during the story as the characters try to resolve, or deal with, the conflict.



# Climax

- The most exciting part of a story—the moment when the outcome of the conflict is determined.
- The climax usually occurs near the end of a short story.





# Resolution (aka. Denouement)

- When the problems are resolved
- The story ends



# Sequence

- The order in which the story's events take place.
- Most stories take place in **chronological order**, or time order.



# Flashback

- A scene that interrupts the story to introduce an event that took place in the past.



# Flash-forward

- A scene that jumps ahead of the story to narrate an event that happens in the future.



# Foreshadowing

- Hints in the story that certain events are going to happen later.



# Atmosphere

- Feelings the story brings through setting



# Now...take out a piece of paper

- Write about a movie or book you have seen or read and do the following:
  - 1. underline the basic situation
  - 2. circle a complication of the story
  - 3. draw a box around the climax of the story
  - 4. put a star next to the resolution