

Summer 2019



Dear Incoming 8th Grade Student,

We look forward to you being enrolled in the upcoming school year at Calvary Academy middle school. All students at Calvary Academy from grades 6 through grade 12 are responsible to complete **two book readings** during the summer.

BOOK 1: Read Tales of Greek Heroes by Roger Lancelyn Greene over the summer; you will be writing an essay during the first full week of Language Arts class on this book.

BOOK 2: Read one of the books below and select 1 of the 3 options to present evidence of reading the book.

8th Grade: 1 **Girls Choices (select one from this genre of Historical Fiction/Nonfiction): ***

- a. Before We Were Free * Julia Alvarez
- b. Between Shades of Gray * Rupa Sepetey
- c. any novel by Anne Rinaldi *
- d. Any book from Royal Diaries series *
- e. or, Choose 1 of these books listed from the Dear America series * →
(Summer project requirements for this can be found on the website under Forms and Resources/Required Reading)

Dear America series 5 options:

1. Look to the Hills: The Diary of Lozette Moreau, a French Slave Girl; or
2. With the Might of Angels: The Diary of Dawnie Rae Johnson, Hadley, Virginia, 1954; or
3. Color Me Dark: The Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North, Chicago, Illinois, 1919; or
4. A Picture of Freedom: The Diary of Clotee, a Slave Girl, Belmont Plantation, Virginia, 1859; or
5. I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl, Mars Bluff, South Carolina, 1865

1 **Boys Choices (select one from this genre of Historical Fiction/Nonfiction): ***

- a. Jumping Off to Freedom * Anilu Bernardo
- b. Year of Impossible Goodbyes * Sook Nyul Choi
- c. or, Choose 1 of these books listed from the My Name is America Series * →
(Summer project requirements for this can be found on the website under Forms and Resources/Required Reading)

My Name is America series 3 options:

1. The journal of Ben Uchida: Citizen 13559 Mirror Lake Internment Camp; or
2. The Journal of Wong Ming-Chung a Chinese Miner, California, 1852-by Laurence Yep; or
3. Down to the Last Out: The Journal of Biddy Owens, The Negro Leagues, Birmingham, Alabama, 1948

A “**Building Blocks of Plot**” is attached as a resource to help you, it’s not required to complete.

Option #1: “Book Report in a Bag: Students read a book, write a summary, get a paper bag, draw a picture/scene for the paper bag, and choose 5 items to be placed in the bag which represent significant points in the novel. Students should use the plot diagram learned in 6th grade class to write the summary. Students should have exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution mentioned in the summary. Then, they decorate a paper grocery bag with a scene from the book, place in the bag five items that represent something from the book, and present the bag to the class. Below is a link where you can see a finished product. It is number 8 in the creative book list. <https://www.weareteachers.com/creative-book-report-ideas/>

Option #2: T-Shirt Book Report Project, see attached info sheet

Option #3: Diary : Create a diary - telling the story, **not** from the main character's perspective but from a minor character’s point of view. Your diary entries must include all the elements of the story, exposition (characters, setting, conflict), rising action, climax, falling action, resolution. This project needs to read like a diary so include a good character description of yourself and the other characters of the story so we can better understand the plot from your character’s point of view. You must have a minimum of 10 entries, approx. 7-10 sentences for each entry (single spaced, 11 font, Times New Roman.)

Your project must be turned in by the first Friday of school.

Have a blessed summer.

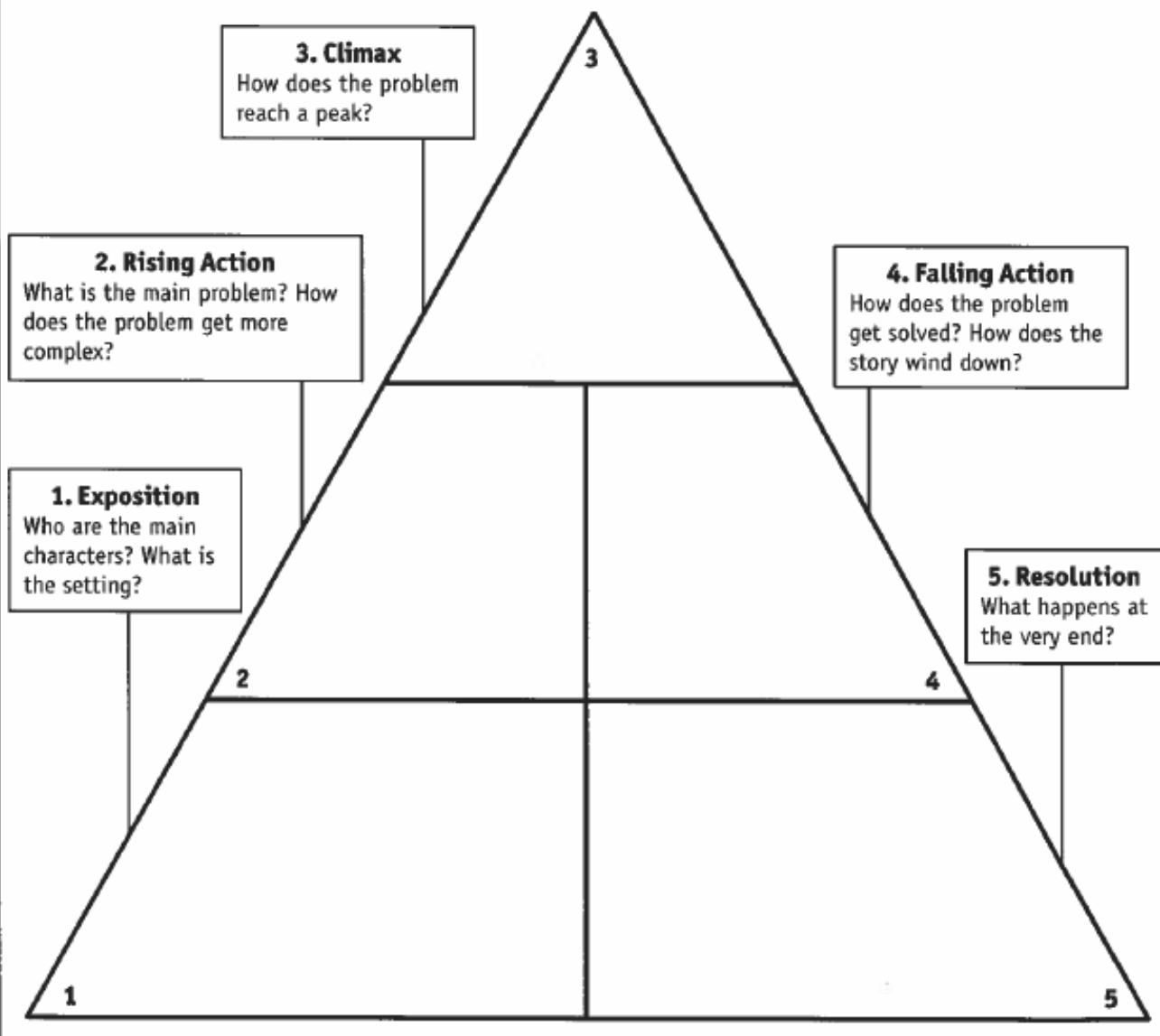
In His Service,
Stephanie Cruz

SKILL: Understanding Plot

Building Blocks of Plot

Every story is different, but most stories follow a similar pattern. In the exposition, we meet the characters and learn about the setting. Then the plot thickens—the main problem is introduced and things get more complicated during the rising action. The climax of the story happens before things wind down during the falling action. Then comes the resolution, when the problem is straightened out (or not) and the story ends. These different parts of a story are known as “plot points.”

Directions: Each block in the pyramid below is one part of the plot of the story you are reading. In each block, write the answer to the question. When you're done, you'll see the main plot points of the story.



T-SHIRT Book Report Project

****Be ready to wear your next book report project!****

This book report will be represented on a t-shirt.

FUN, FUN!! Your parents may help with the design; however, you have to write the report. Make sure to follow ALL steps and look at all the pages. Most importantly, refer to the rubric for scoring! 😊

Things to Do:

- Choose a plain t-shirt of any color.
- Write on the shirt, add pictures, glue things onto it that represent the book. Your t-shirt must include:
 - ① **Front:** The front of the shirt should be a replica of the book cover OR what you think should represent the book cover. Make sure to include the title and author!
 - ② **Right Sleeve:** Main and supporting characters, including a graphic of the main character
 - ③ **Left Sleeve:** Setting and problem, including a graphic of the main setting
 - ④ **Back:** Use words and graphics to illustrate your favorite scene in the book. Also, include your favorite quote!
 - ⑤ **Summary (Back):** Write a summary of the book that also includes your opinion of the book.
- Practice your **Book Talk** to present in front of the class. (1-3 min. presentation) 😊
- Bring your book, Book Report Packet, and your shirt.

GET CREATIVE!!

