

Story Elements

The elements of a story include:

- ❖ Characters - Who is in the story?

- ❖ Setting - When and where does the story take place?

- ❖ Problem - What problem does the main character have or what does the main character want?

- ❖ Events - What does the main character do to solve his/her problem or get what he/she wants?

- ❖ Resolution - How is the problem solved? OR How does the main character learn to deal with the problem?

- ❖ Theme - What is the universal theme or lesson learned?

Appendix #8a

Genre: Adventure

Adventure stories like other narratives have the same elements: characters in settings with problems, attempts to solve problems or events, resolution and lessons or themes. Adventure story is a form of realistic fiction and has many of the same features. Adventure stories can be based on historical fact and therefore, also fall into the category of historical fiction. Some features of adventure stories make them different from other narratives. The dictionary defines adventure as the encountering of danger; a daring, hazardous undertaking; and risk.

Adventure

Definition:

- A narrative that features the unknown, uncharted, or unexpected, with elements of danger, excitement and risk (from Harris, et al. The Literacy Dictionary, IRA, 1995)

Purpose:

- To entertain
- To involve the reader in the exciting adventures of fictional characters

Form and Features:

- Opens with the background information needed to understand the story and introduces characters in a setting, conflict, problem or goal.
- The middle of an adventure story (realistic fiction) develops the plot including the story's events, the characters' reactions to these events, and the roadblocks the characters encounter. The plot builds to a climax (the point at which the conflict reaches its greatest height and the crisis or turning point occurs).
- The adventure story ends with a resolution to the conflict or problem or a conclusion.
- Plot: the sequence of events usually set in motion by a problem that begins the action or causes the conflict (from Cornett, C. Integrating Literature and the Arts Through the Curriculum, Simon and Schuster, 1999.)
- Conflict, the tension that exists between the forces in the character's life, is important in adventure stories and can be in four forms:
 - Person – against – self
 - Person – against – person
 - Person – against – nature
 - Person – against – society
- Adventure stories are realistic fiction; so, the characters must seem like real people, the actions of the characters must seem real and the setting must also be realistic.
- Adventure stories can also have features of historical fiction:
 - setting is a specific time and place in history,
 - real events are mixed with fictional events, and
 - historical characters are mixed with fictional characters
- Sensory details are used for impact.
- Description and dialogue are often used as elements and features of an adventure story.

Appendix #8b

Some material adapted from Buss, et al. Reading and Writing Literacy Genres, IRA, 2000.

Adventure Story Bookmark <i>realistic fiction featuring elements of danger, excitement and risk</i>	
Name:	_____
Title:	_____
List the page number and a brief reminder of the genre characteristics you find as you read.	
Conflict includes: person-against-self, person-against-person, person-against-nature, person-against-society	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
Sensory details and strong verbs are used for impact.	
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
Dialogue is used to develop character, setting and plot.	
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
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Adventure Story Bookmark <i>realistic fiction featuring elements of danger, excitement and risk</i>	
Name:	_____
Title:	_____
List the page number and a brief reminder of the genre characteristics you find as you read.	
Conflict includes: person-against-self, person-against-person, person-against-nature, person-against-society	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
Sensory details and strong verbs are used for impact.	
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
Dialogue is used to develop character, setting and plot.	
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
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Adventure Story Bookmark <i>realistic fiction featuring elements of danger, excitement and risk</i>	
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	p. _____
	p. _____
Sensory details and strong verbs are used for impact.	
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	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
Dialogue is used to develop character, setting and plot.	
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
	p. _____
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