

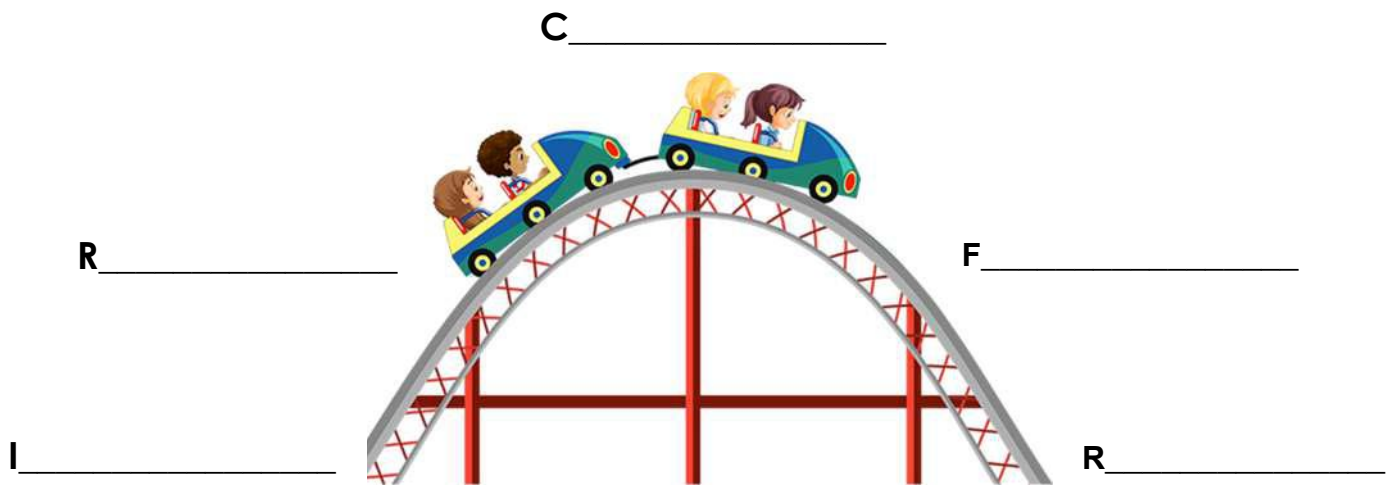
Elements of a story: Plot

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

Plot is all of the action that happens in a story. Most plots have five parts:

- **Introduction:** Meet the characters and learn where and when the story happens
- **Rising Action or Problem:** A problem or challenge makes things interesting
- **Climax:** The most exciting part of the story
- **Falling Action:** The problem starts getting solved
- **Resolution:** The story wraps up, showing what happened at the end

First, label these parts on the plot mountain below:



Next, read this story as you think about its plot:

At the end of the day, Michael grabbed his backpack and hopped into his mom's car. When he got home, he put his backpack on the floor by the door, like usual. He started to walk to the kitchen to get a snack, but then he stopped. Something seemed strange. He walked back to his backpack.

He then unzipped it and froze. Instead of his math homework and science book, he found a purple notebook, a soccer jersey and a library book he'd never seen before.

"This isn't mine!" Michael gasped. He checked the name tag: Olivia K. He had taken the wrong backpack!

Michael's stomach twisted. His homework was due tomorrow! He had to find Olivia and switch bags before it was too late. How would he do this?

First, his mom helped him check the school's online directory. There were two Olivia K's! He had no idea who was who. Then, he thought about the soccer jersey in the bag. Maybe Olivia played on the school team.

His mom drove him to the school's soccer field. A group of players was finishing practice, and Michael spotted a girl stuffing a pink notebook into a backpack that looked like his.

He hurried over. "Are you Olivia K.?" he asked, holding up the bag.

She looked at him in surprise. "Yes! That's mine!"

Michael sighed in relief. "I think I grabbed it by mistake. Do you have mine?"

Olivia looked down at her bag. "I was wondering why my stuff looked different!" she laughed.

They swapped bags, and Michael checked inside. His homework was safe!

That night, as he finished his math worksheet, he made a mental note: Always check before grabbing your backpack and bringing it home!



Then, describe the story's plot and fill in the blanks below:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introduction: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Rising Action/ Problem: | <u>Michael realizes he grabbed Olivia K.'s backpack and that he has homework due tomorrow!</u> |
| Climax: | <u>Michael figures out that Olivia plays soccer and rushes to the field, hoping to find her.</u> |
| Falling Action: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Resolution: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |

Answers

First, label these parts on the plot mountain below:



| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introduction: | <u>Michael grabs his backpack after school and heads home.</u> |
| Rising Action/ Problem: | <u>Michael realizes he grabbed Olivia K.'s backpack and that he has homework due tomorrow!</u> |
| Climax: | <u>Michael figures out that Olivia plays soccer and rushes to the field, hoping to find her.</u> |
| Falling Action: | <u>Michael finds a girl at the soccer field who has a backpack that looks like his. She is Olivia!</u> |
| Resolution: | <u>Olivia and Michael swap backpacks, and Michael gets his homework back.</u> |