Story: _____

Setting (time and place _____

Identify the protagonist and two important facts about that character. _____

_____

_____

Identify the antagonist and two important facts about that character. _____

_____

_____

A plot is a series of events in a narrative. A good plot has conflicts (struggles) to make it interesting. Which characters have conflicts and what are those conflicts? Sometimes the protagonist has a conflict with himself or a third person in addition to the main conflict with the antagonist. Sometimes the antagonist has a conflict with himself or a third person in addition to the main conflict with the protagonist. The point is this: There is almost always more than one conflict in a good story. This exercise asks you to identify some of them.

_____ and _____ : _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

_____ and _____ : _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

_____ and _____ : _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

                                    _____

This part of the exercise asks you to consider what caused the conflicts you have identified. Think about those conflict and what events helped shape or cause them. Identify the events and explain the role each one played in helping to create the conflicts you have identified.
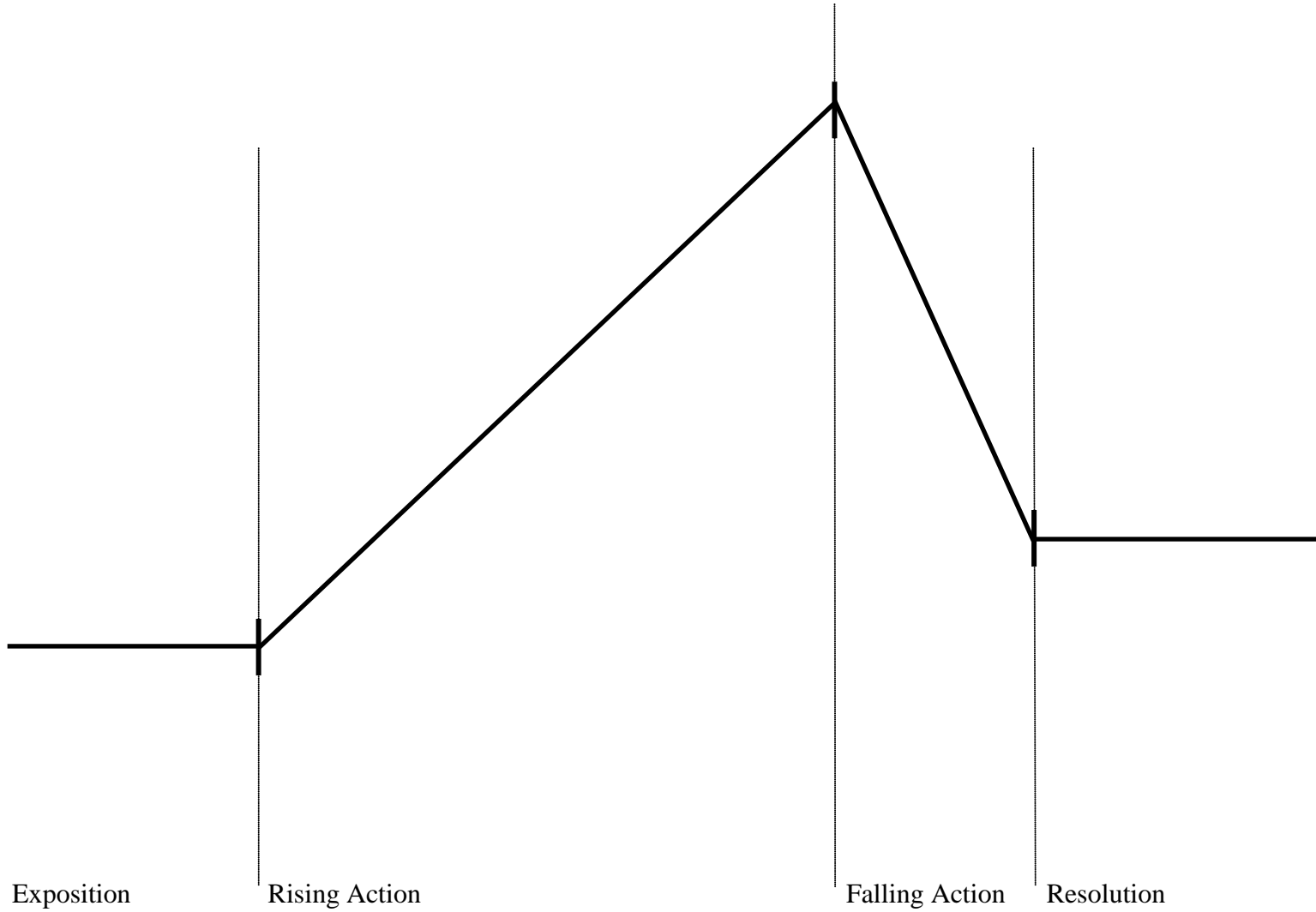
Event / Situation   **How it helped shape or cause the conflict**

Story _____

\

Conflict(s):	Climax

Exposition   Rising Action   Falling Action   Resolution

Parallel Episodes

Parallel episodes are elements of a plot that are repeated.

A good example of parallel episodes is the story of the Three Little Pigs.

You may remember that in this story the big bad wolf threatened to blow down the house of each of the three little pigs. The wolf began by blowing down the house of straw; he then blew down the house made of wood; finally, he tried to blow down the house made of bricks. Each time he approached a pig's house, he began by saying, "I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down."

Because the wolf repeats his actions, they are parallel episodes.

Story _____

Repeated Element

In the boxes below, describe what happens each time the element is repeated.
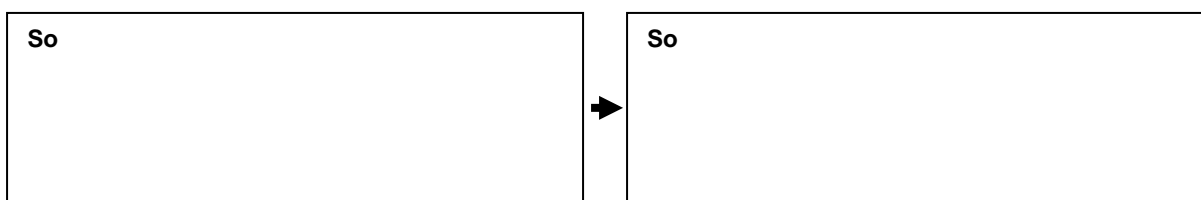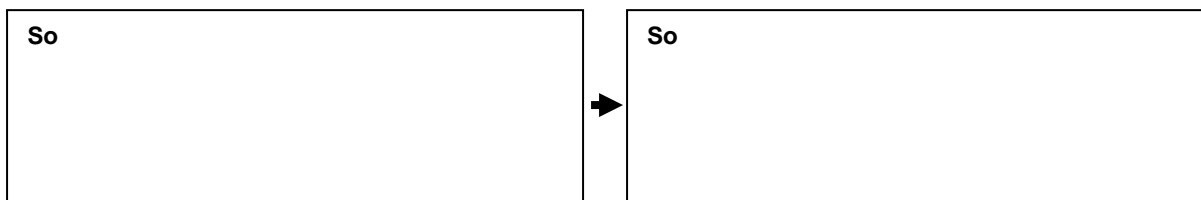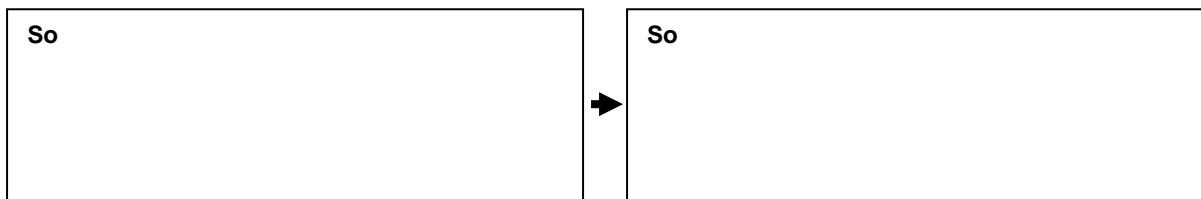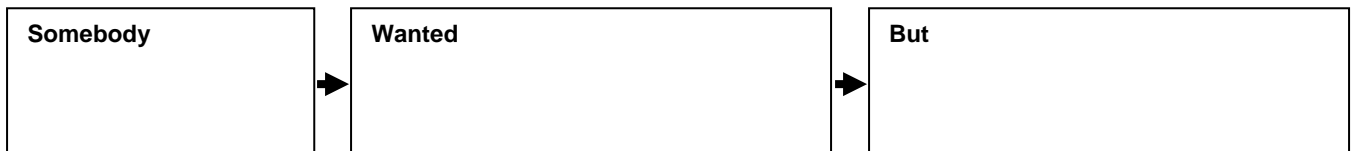

Story: _____

Setting:

_____

Main Characters:

_____

Pointers for Identifying Plot and Subplots
Somebody: Who is the character?
Wanted: What does the character want?
But: What is keeping the character from getting what he or she wants. This is the conflict.
So the character tries: This is a complication. There may be more than one of these.
So, finally, the character: How does the character finally solve the problem? This is the resolution.

Somebody	**Wanted**	**But**

So	**So**

Somebody	**Wanted**	**But**

So	**So**

Somebody	**Wanted**	**But**

So	**So**

Story: _____

**Setting:**

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Main Characters:

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| **Pointers for Identifying Plot and Subplots** |
|---|
| **Somebody:** Who is the character? |
| **Wanted:** What does the character want? |
| **But:** What is keeping the character from getting what he or she wants. This is the conflict. |
| **So the character tries:** This is a complication. There may be more than one of these. |
| **So, finally, the character:** How does the character finally solve the problem? This is the resolution. |
| Remember, *most* conflicts in a narrative (story) are *usually* resolved, but not all conflicts are resolved in all stories. |
| Types of Conflicts |
| ■ **Internal:** Man vs. Self ■ **External:** Man vs. Man, Man vs. Group, Man vs. Society, Man vs. Nature, Man vs. God |
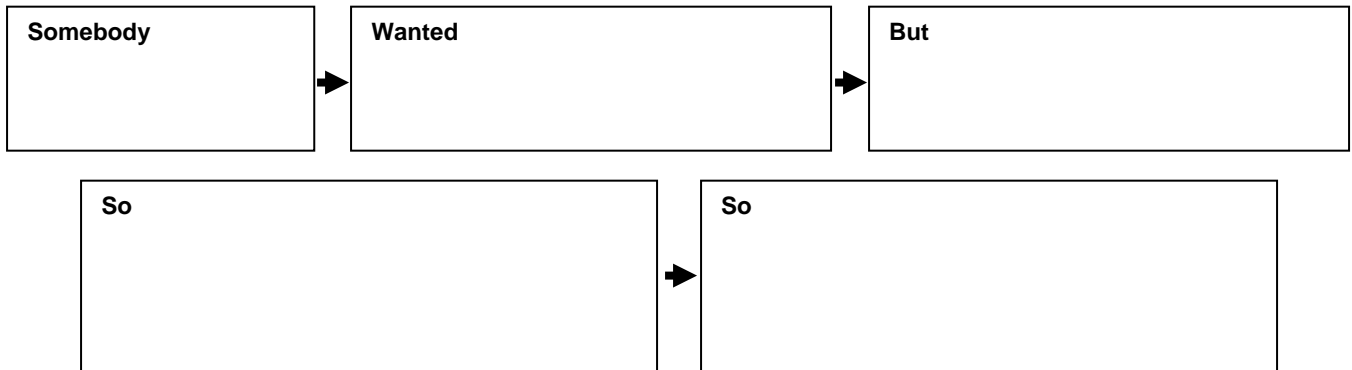
Somebody	**Wanted**	**But**

So	**So**

Describe the Conflict: _____

_____

_____

PLOT: ☐ Main Plot   ☐ Subplot

CONFLICT: ☐ Internal   ☐ External   //   Man vs. _____

Was the conflict resolved?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

Somebody	Wanted	But

So	So

Describe the Conflict: _____

_____

_____

PLOT: ☐ Main Plot   ☐ Subplot

CONFLICT: ☐ Internal   ☐ External   //   Man vs. _____

Was the conflict resolved?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

Somebody	Wanted	But

So	So

Describe the Conflict: _____

_____

_____
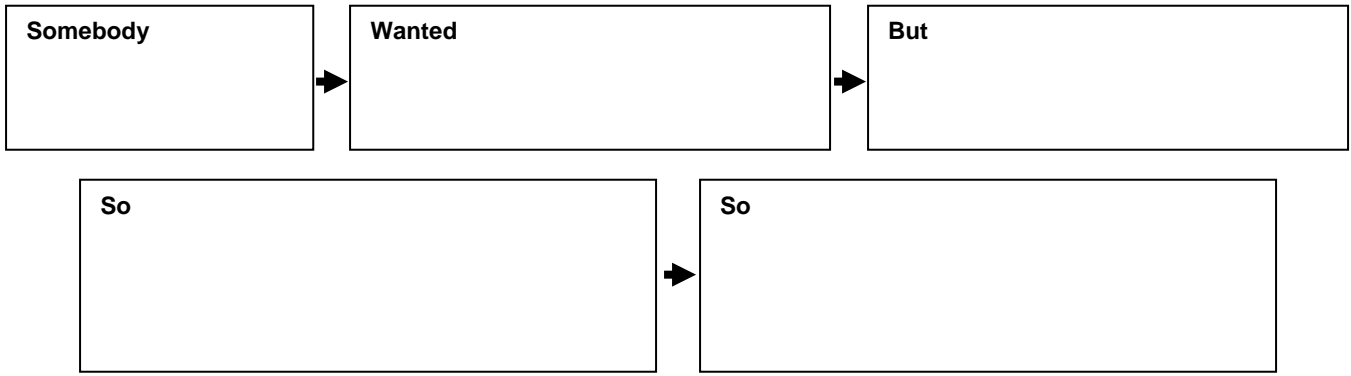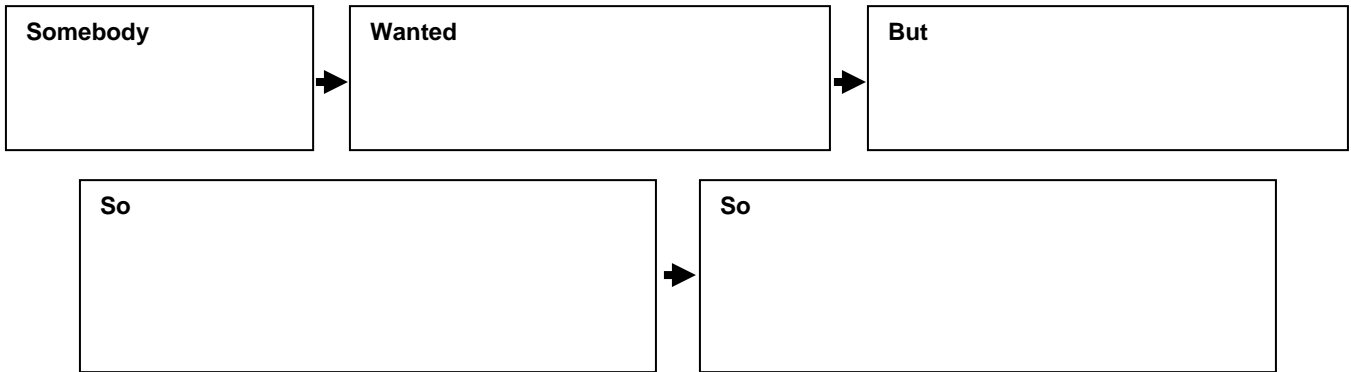
PLOT: ☐ Main Plot   ☐ Subplot

CONFLICT: ☐ Internal   ☐ External   //   Man vs. _____

Was the conflict resolved?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

Understanding Conflict through Compare and Contrast

Similarities

| Antagonist |
| Differences |

| Protagonist |
| Differences |

Name   Name

_____   _____

What do the similarities and differences between the protagonist and antagonist reveal about the conflict? Explain your answer.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____