HOW TO COMPLETE THE PLOT STRUCTURE DIAGRAM

1. Identify the main **characters** within the story. Remember the characters you should list are those that participate in the action.

2. Identify the **setting** of the story. This could include where the story took place or when then story took place. (Time of day, year, month, etc.)

3. Identify the **conflict** between the hero (protagonist) and the (enemy) antagonist.

4. Identify the **resolution**. How was the conflict solved?

5. Identify the **turning point** or **climax**. This is the main event between the hero and the opponent. This can be identified as the moment you have been waiting for.

6. Identify the **rising action**, which are the major events that lead to the turning point.

7. Identify the **falling action**, which are the events that lead to the resolution.

8. Identify the **theme** of the story. What is the lesson or message the author is trying to help you to understand? What is the lesson the protagonist learned? *Reword #4 so that is can apply to anyone who reads the story.

9. Identify the **exposition** of the story. Using the characters, setting, conflict, and mood (how the story made you feel) to create the exposition of the story, which helps you to “get into” the story, novel, or movie from the very beginning.