

The **plot** is an **order or series of events** in a story.

- ▶ The **main events** of the **plot** are the **problem and solution**.
- ▶ The **important events** move the **story's problem to the solution**.

Lost Key

¹Hugh could not find the key to the garage. ²He needed to leave for school soon, and his backpack was in the garage. ³He had looked for the key on the hook where it usually is and, in the drawer, where his brother sometimes leaves it. ⁴He asked his brother, Steven, for help. ⁵They looked in the kitchen and office. ⁶Hugh didn't know what to do. ⁷Hugh went outside and suddenly realized the window was open. ⁸Hugh climbed through the window and grabbed his backpack. ⁹Hugh ran all the way to school.

Not examples of main events of the plot:

Hugh didn't know what to do.

Hugh ran all the way to school.

CFU

Which could be a problem in a story? Explain.

- A Emma wanted to buy a present for her mother, but she did not have enough money.**
- B Emma decided to dog sit all the neighbors' dogs to make some money.**

Which could be a solution in a story? Explain.

- A Efrain wanted to go the volleyball practice, but his mother was working late that day.**
- B Efrain's mother called Mr. Moreno and asked him to take Efrain to the volleyball practice.**

What is the difference between problem and solution?

What is the difference between the main events and the important events in a story?

- 1 Read the passage.
- 2 Determine the problem and solution. (write)
- 3 Determine the important events. (underline)

The Slow Crab

¹One day, two crabs went for a stroll₂ on the warm sand. ²As they began to walk up the beach, the big crab said to the little crab, "You walk very slowly. ³Crabs do not walk slowly." ⁴This upset the little crab. ⁵So, the little crab tried to move faster by walking straight, but failed every time. ⁶Then, the little crab decided to run but he kept falling down. ⁷Next, the little crab tried to jump in order to move fast, but that made him tired. ⁸The little crab was sad. ⁹Finally, he asked the big crab for help. ¹⁰"To move fast, you must move side to side," said the big crab.

Problem

1

Solution

Tryouts for the School Play

¹Martha wanted to be in the school play, but she had never acted before. ²She didn't think that she would get the part. ³So, Martha called her friend for help, but she was too busy. ⁴Martha felt sad. ⁵Martha's older sister, Connie, asked what was bothering her, so Martha explained.

⁶"I'll help you," said Connie. ⁷"We can practice after school every day, until the tryouts." ⁸For two weeks, Connie helped Martha practice for the school play.

⁹The day of the tryouts, Martha felt really good because she had practiced so hard. ¹⁰Martha got the part. ¹¹She hugged her sister every day for two weeks.

Problem

2

Solution

Skill Closure

- 1 Read the passage.
- 2 Determine the problem and solution. (write)
- 3 Determine the important events. (underline)

The Bike Fair

¹Gloria wanted to enter her bike into the fair. ²She decided to decorate her bike with ribbons and balloons. ³Gloria got her bike out, but something was wrong. ⁴The wheel would not roll. ⁵The tire was flat! ⁶She tried to add air to the tire, but that didn't work. ⁷Then, Gloria, saw Mr. Tide. ⁸"Would you please help me?" asked Gloria. ⁹Mr. Tide took off the flat tire, patched up the hole, and added air. ¹⁰The tire was fixed. ¹¹Gloria decorated her bike and rode off to the bike fair.

Problem

Solution

Concept Closure

Kobe used "*Gloria decided to decorate her bike with ribbons and balloons*" as one of the important events of the plot. Why is Kobe incorrect? Explain your answer. (orally)

Summary Closure

What did you learn today about determining the main events of the plot?

Word Bank

Plot

Main events

Problem

Solution

Important events

- 1 Read the passage.
- 2 Determine the problem and solution. (write)
- 3 Determine the important events. (underline)

Green Hair

¹One morning, Tino was getting ready for school. ²Suddenly, he looked in the mirror and screamed. ³Tino's hair was green. ⁴He must have used his sister's shampoo. ⁵"How could this have happened?" he said to himself. "I can't go to school looking like this!" ⁶So, Tino rewashed his hair, but that didn't work. ⁷Tino decided to act sick, so he wouldn't have to go to school with green hair. ⁸But his mother knew he was not sick. ⁹Tino started to panic, but then he saw a green hat next to his bed.

¹⁰Suddenly, Tino had an idea. ¹¹He grabbed the green hat. ¹²"I'll wear a green hat. ¹³That way no one will notice my green hair."

Problem

Solution



Listening

Listen carefully to the story.

Determine the main events of the plot. (orally)

manicure

allowance

Problem

Solution

Important Events

What is the story about?

**Reading**

Read the story. Complete the blanks with the phrases given. (one is extra)
Read the story again.

**bat hit
the ball****to score the
winning run****looked at
his father****he wanted to
impress his father****“Strike
one!”****ball flew
past him****The Big Game**

The big game was on the line₁. Ryan knew that it was up to him
_____ so that his team could win the championship₂. He
stepped up to the plate and closed his eyes and swung the bat.
_____ the umpire shouted. Ryan shook his head and knew he had
to swing at the next pitch. Finally, it came and Ryan closed his eyes and swung with
all his might₃. The _____ again. Ryan took a break and
_____. His father yelled, “Keep your eye on the ball, son!”
When the third pitch was thrown, he took a deep breath, and watched the
_____. “Crack!” Ryan had hit a homerun—the winning run of
the game.

**Writing****Problem**

Solution

Important Events



Reading

Read the story "The Thirsty Crow."

The Thirsty Crow

Crow was very thirsty. She found a pitcher with water, but the water was at the bottom. Crow put her beak into the pitcher again and again, but she could not reach the water. Crow's thirst grew even greater. There was the water. How could she get to it? Crow tried to tip the pitcher over, but the pitcher was too heavy. The Crow was so upset that she threw a rock at the pitcher. The rock landed in the pitcher. That gave Crow an idea. She began dropping pebbles₂ into the pitcher. With every pebble she dropped in, the water rose higher in the pitcher. At last, the water was high enough for Crow to sip.



Writing

Write a label for each statement with the words or phrases provided.

problem

solution

important event

false

- 1 Crow was able to get the water by tipping the pitcher.
- 2 Crow tried to knock over the pitcher, but it was too hefty.
- 3 Crow placed her beak in the pitcher many times but couldn't reach the water.
- 4 Crow needed to drink water, but the water was too deep in the pitcher.
- 5 Crow was so upset that she decided not to drink water from the pitcher.
- 6 Crow dropped a rock in the pitcher, and it landed inside.
- 7 Crow was able to drink the water by placing many small rocks in the pitcher.
