

6th Grade Summer Reading Assignments

Students entering 6th grade in August will read a total of 3 books this summer. One book, The Egypt Game by Zilpha Keatley Snyder, is required. Students will then choose one book from the “Choice Books” list and one from the “Classics” list. After reading, students will have three Story Maps to complete and one bookmark to make. The Story Maps and bookmark will be graded as a 1st quarter reading test grade so make sure to complete all work and do your best!

Required Reading

- *The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder

There will be discussions and activities in class about *The Egypt Game* the first week and a half of school and a test tentatively scheduled for the end of the second week of school. It is recommended *The Egypt Game* be read in August.

Choice Books

My Side of the Mountain (and the 2 books in the trilogy) by Jean Craighead George

Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi

The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pene du Bois

Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan

The Summer of the Swans by Betsy Byars

The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster and Susan Nanus

Jacob I Have Loved by Katherine Paterson

Year of Impossible Goodbyes by Sook Nyul Choi

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

Theodore Boone series by John Grisham

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart

The Kite Rider by Geraldine McCaughrean

The Wrinkle in Time series by Madeleine L'Engle

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

Holes by Louis Sachar

Classics (There are many versions of these books. Choose the one at your reading level.)

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Anne of Green Gables by Lucy Maud Montgomery

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

White Fang by Jack London

Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood by Howard Pyle

Peter Pan by James Matthew Barrie

Rip Van Winkle by Washington Irving

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Story Maps and Bookmark

Each student is required to complete the enclosed Story Map (it is 2-sided) for EACH novel read and then use the forms to create one bookmark for ANY of the 3 books read. Story Maps and bookmark can be typed or handwritten as long as they are legible and contain all given parts. (An example bookmark is enclosed.)

Complete a Story Map (2-sided) for ALL THREE BOOKS READ. Then use the information in your maps to help create your bookmark. Your bookmark should include:

1. The **title** and **author** of the book
2. **Summary** of important plot events (the events that occur in the book) *without* giving away the ending!
3. **Characters** – List the main characters of the book and describe their defining traits and any conflicts they face.
4. **Setting** – Describe the setting (**when and where**) of your book.
5. **Theme** – What was the theme of the book? (The theme is the important idea, subject, or topic that runs through the book. **It is not stated in the story, and it is not the moral of the story.** Example themes are: friendship, loyalty, family, circle of life, overcoming odds, love conquers all)
6. **Review** – How did the story make you feel? Did you enjoy it? Explain why you did or did not enjoy it. Be specific with details about the plot, characterization, setting, and language of the book.
7. **Graphics** – Include a picture or image from the book that relates to the theme of the book. This can be either clip art, hand-drawn art, or an image cut from a magazine.

There are many, many other GREAT books that can be read and enjoyed over the summer, so we hope you will dive into others as well! Have an amazing summer and happy reading!

PARTS OF A STORY MAP

Exposition

The *exposition* is the introduction to a story, including the primary characters' names, setting (where and when), and mood.

Rising Action

The *rising action* includes all the events that lead to the climax. It also presents some type of conflict which is the struggle between two forces in the story. Conflict provides interest, suspense, and tension.

Climax

The *climax* is the turning point and most exciting point of the story. The climax is the moment in the story when the momentum or feeling of the narrative shifts. The main character has a turning point and may change, learn a lesson, or meet an important person, and this change will prepare the main character to resolve the conflict in the story.

Falling Action

The *falling action* is everything that happens as a result of the climax, including wrapping-up of plot points, questions being answered, and character development.

Solution or Resolution

In the *solution/resolution*, all loose ends of the story are tied up. The resolution is the solution to the problem and when conflicts are resolved and the story concludes. The resolution allows a story to end without trailing off or leaving the reader confused or unsatisfied.

~ Point of highest emotion / tension
~ turning point

Climax

Rising Action

1 or more
characters
in crisis

Falling Action

Resolution of
character's crisis

Exposition

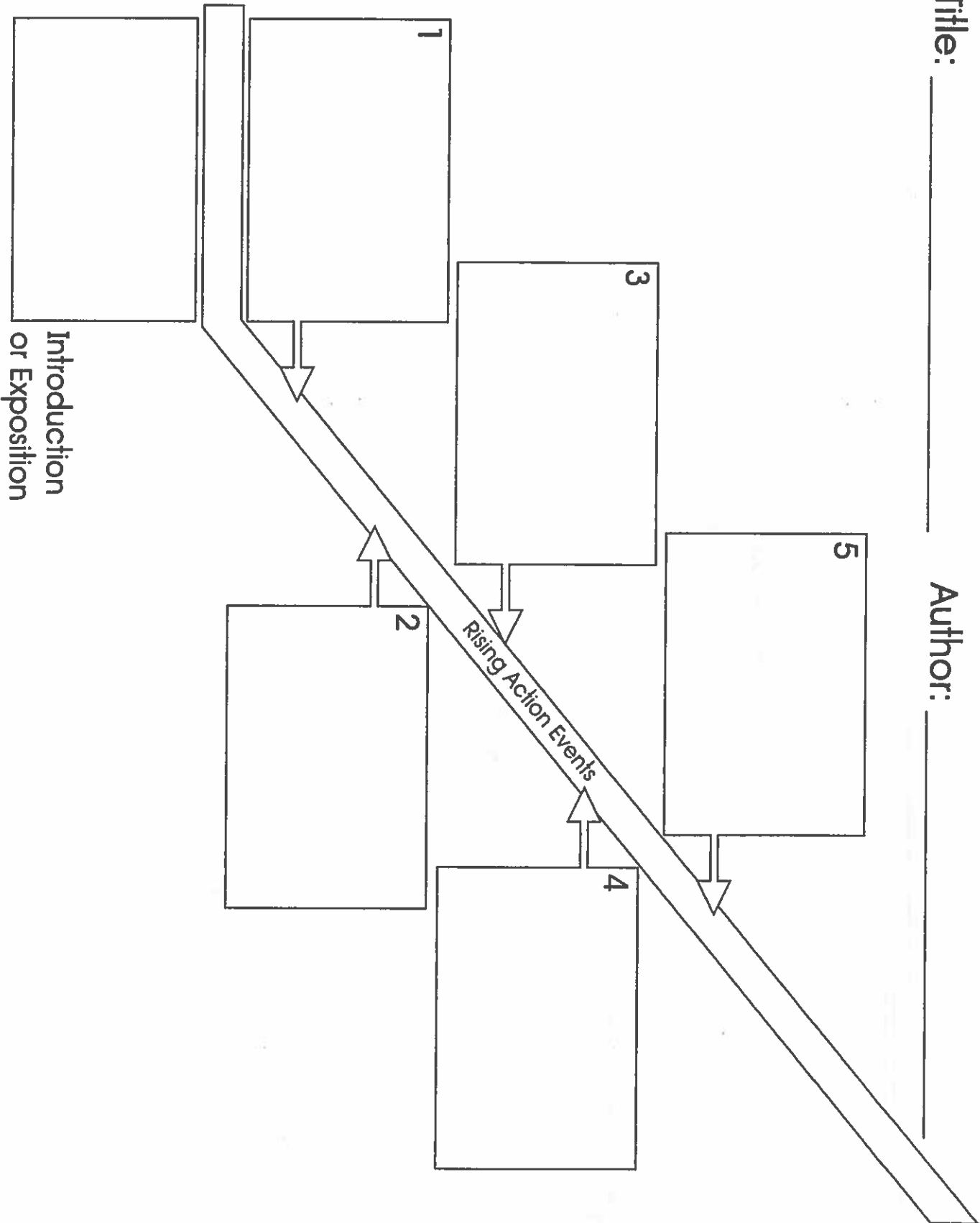
Introduces:
~ characters
~ setting

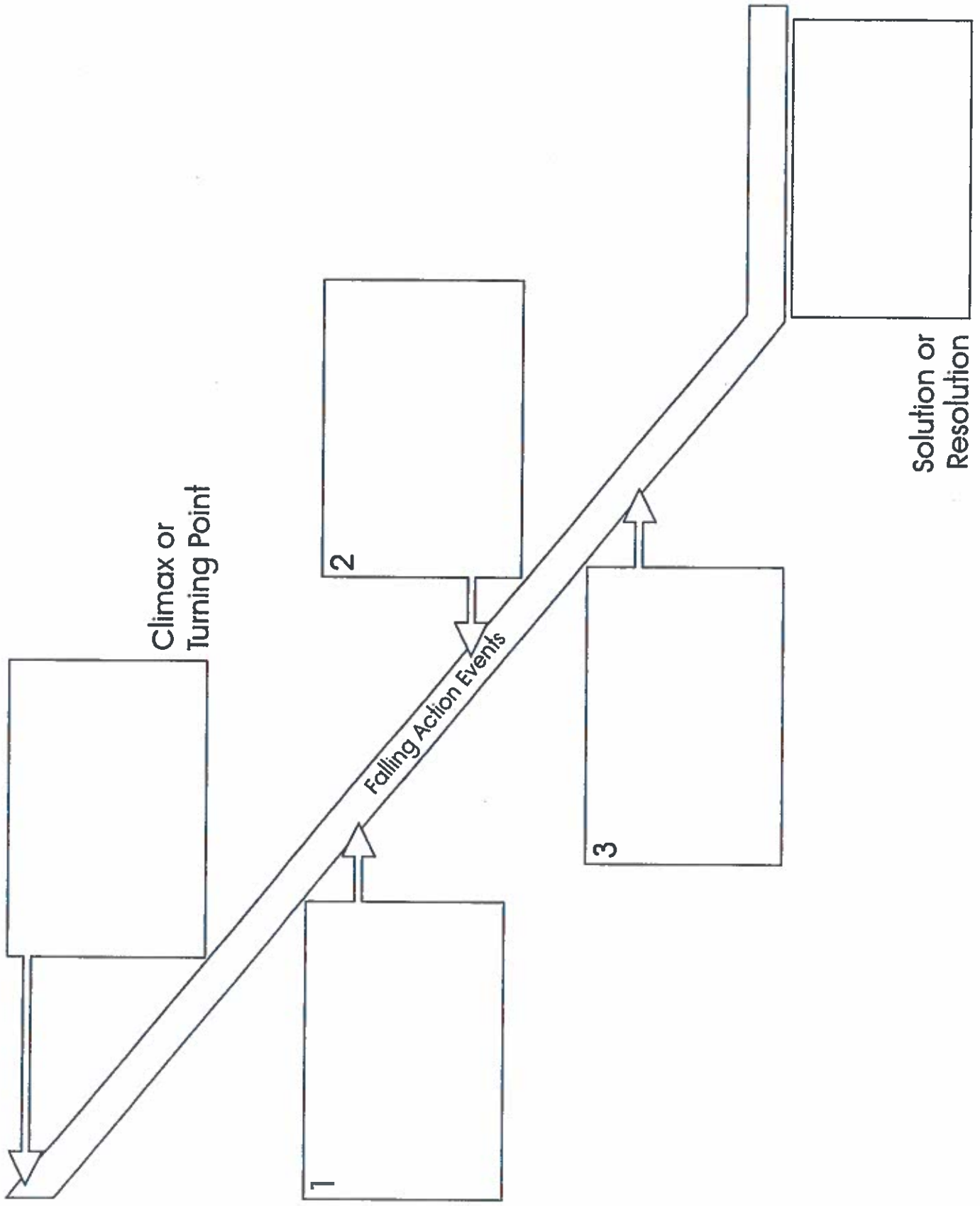
Resolution

All loose ends
tied up.

Title: _____

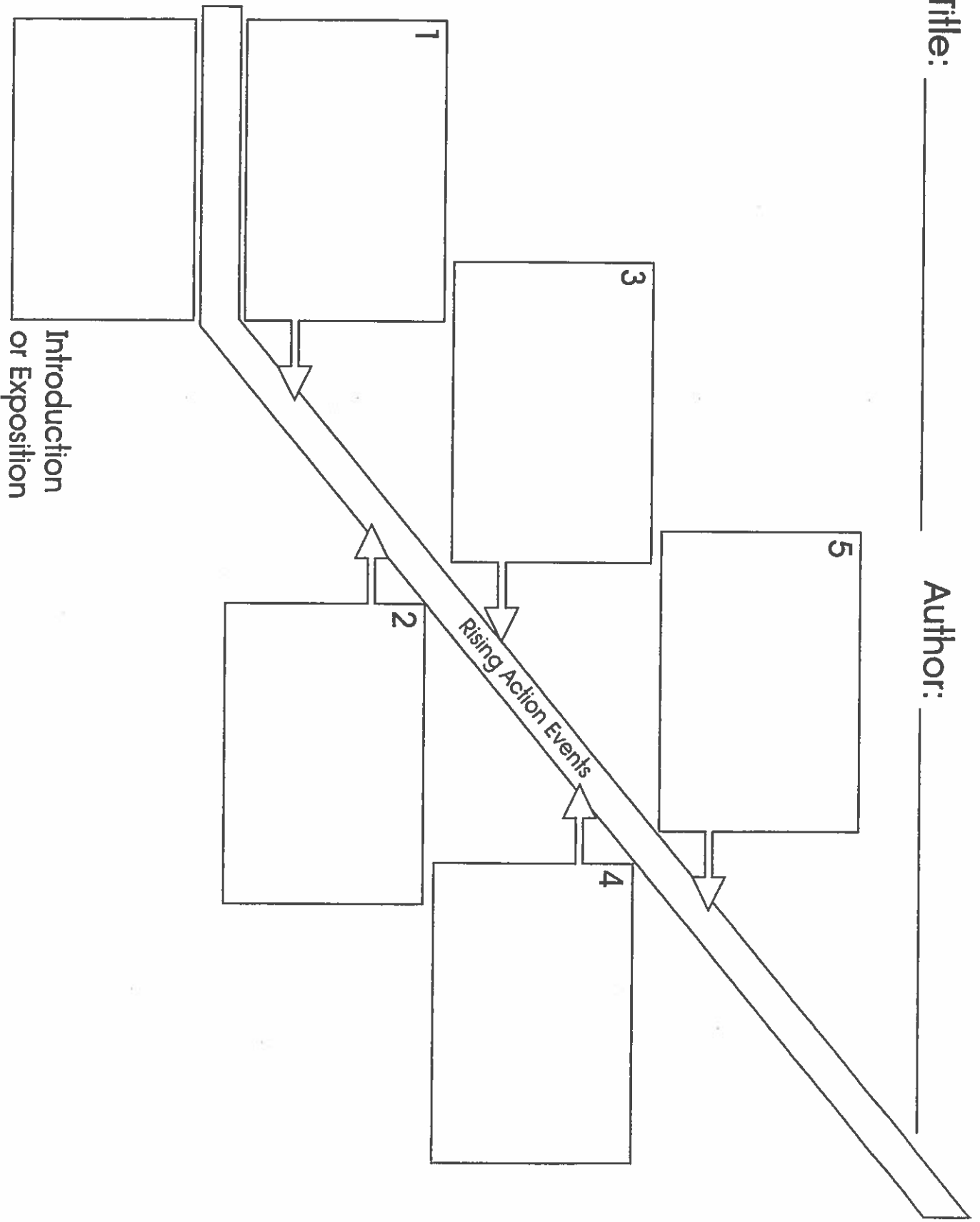
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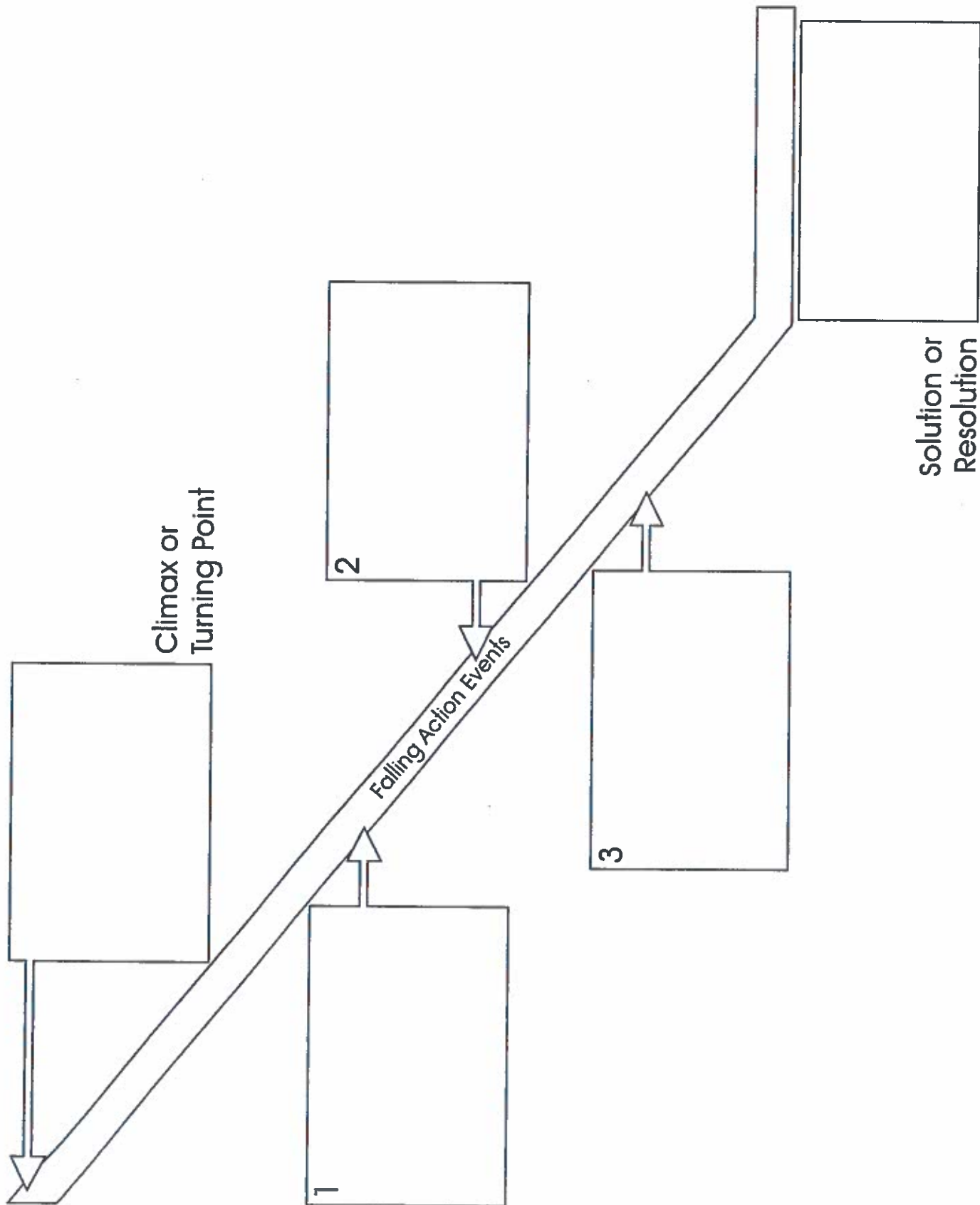




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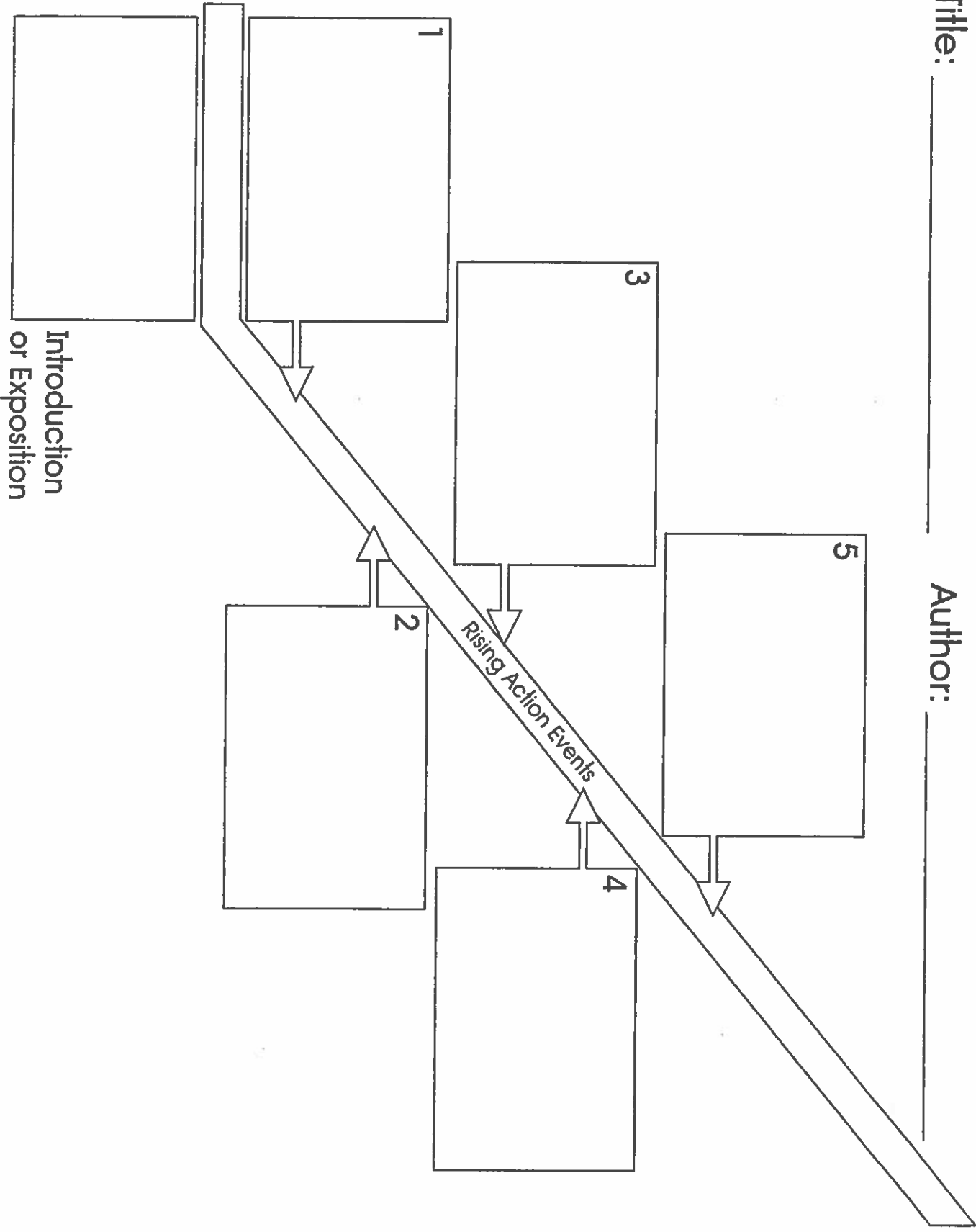
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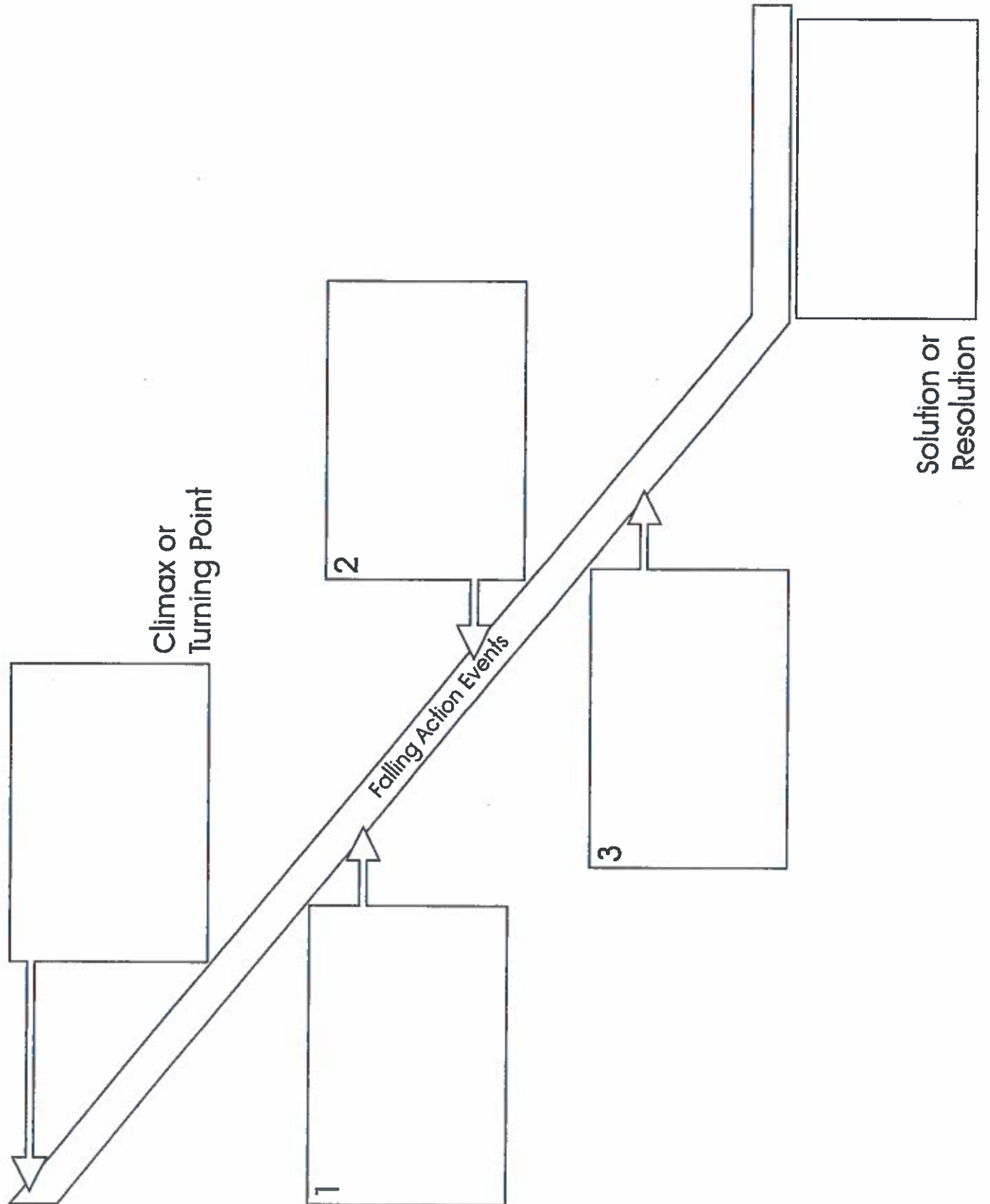




Title: _____

Author: _____





The Hobbit

By J.R.R. Tolkein

Summary:

Little Bilbo Baggins is just an innocent Hobbit who lives a simple and straightforward life. But when a wizard named Gandalf makes him an offer to go along on a dangerous adventure, Bilbo can't resist. He will travel with a band of dwarves trying to regain their long lost treasure from a dragon named Smaug who lives inside a mountain. It is a very dangerous adventure but Bilbo decides to go along as their head robber.

Their next adventure occurs when they decide to take shelter to get away from the rain. They find an indentation in the face of one of the mountains that opens up inside. When they are sleeping, a large band of goblins captures them and takes them down into their tunnels. Gandalf uses his magic to create a cloud smoke and sparks that give them a chance to flee.

Along the way Bilbo finds a ring that makes him invisible. While trying to find a way out, he runs into monster named Gollum who challenges Bilbo to a riddle contest. If Bilbo loses, he will be eaten, but if he wins, he will be spared. Bilbo wins and then uses his invisible ring to escape the goblin lair and meet up with his friends.



Bilbo bails the dwarves out many times, including saving them from huge spiders. He also helps them escape from the elf prison. But his biggest challenge is finding Smaug's lair. Will he succeed?

Characters:

Bilbo Baggins is a Hobbit who is employed as the robber for a wizard and group of dwarves to steal treasure from a dragon.

Gandalf is a wizard who gives guidance and help with magic when the troop needs it.

Thorin is the dwarf in charge of the expedition and the son of the dwarves' king whose kingdom was destroyed by Smaug the dragon.

Smaug is the dragon responsible for killing and taking over the dwarves lair in the mountain. He also took all their treasures.

Beorn is a man who help the band of adventurers during the mid part of their journey. He gives them advice and a safe place to stay.

Fili is one of Thorin's dwarves on his trip, who always helps him with tasks like lookout and seeing if it's safe for the rest of the troop to pass.

Setting:

The Shire in Middle Earth during a time Long Ago

Theme: Look inside of yourself to accomplish great tasks.

Review:

This book was very entertaining. Some of the characters were peculiar which made them fun to read about. Also there were lots of exciting adventures with goblins, elves, and a dragon. The book never gets boring if you like fantasy books.

I would give this book 3/5 stars



Rubric for Bookmark Book Reports

	4	3	2	1
Summary	Describes THE MOST important events in the book	Describes MOST of the important events in the book	Describes SOME important events but misses other key events, or highlights unimportant details	Lists SOME events in the book, but information is incomplete, unclear, or inaccurate
Review	Uses multiple criteria to judge the book (such as creativity, plot, characterization, setting, and figurative language)	Uses 1-2 criteria to judge the book	Tries to use objective criteria to judge the book, but does not apply criteria accurately.	Evaluates work as good or bad based only on personal taste
Characters	The main characters are named and clearly described.	The main characters are named and described	The main characters are named but not described	It is hard to tell who the main characters are
Graphics	Graphics are neat, of high quality, related to theme/purpose of the book, and enhance reader interest or understanding	Graphics are related to the theme/purpose of the book, are of good quality, and enhance reader interest or understanding	Graphics are related to the theme/purpose of the book and are of good quality	Graphics seem randomly chosen, are of low quality, OR distract the reader
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	Virtually free of spelling, punctuation or grammar errors	Just a few spelling, punctuation or grammar errors	Spelling, punctuation or grammar errors are somewhat distracting to the reader	There are many spelling, punctuation or grammar errors which distract the reader
TOTAL POINTS	/20	%		