

Charting a Full Movement While Reading Short Fiction

Reading and Annotating

On the hard copy of the story you're reading, indicate:

- where you think the start of the plot is
- where do tensions begin to rise
- where you think the "beginning of the end" is
- where the falling action is

Then, zoom out and answer:

- Where and when is this story being told?
- How many times has this story been told?
- Is there a difference between "plot" and "story?"
- For the above questions, justify your answers.

Telling Fiction starts with Characters

- Who drives the truck?
 - Dually (four rear wheels)
 - Two American flags flying from the bed
 - "ROADKILL" across the grill in red, white, and blue
 - Driving over the center lane going 50mph in a school zone
- Family Stories
 - List 2-3 stories that you associate with your family
 - Example" Raymond Clarence Deeren went to a music concert with his father.
 - Something you've heard told a lot. Something you can tell almost from heart
 - Why are these "good" stories?
- Choose ONE to Dissect
 - Who was involved in this story?
 - Characters
 - Where did this happen?
 - Setting
 - What were the people's motivations? Or, why did they act the way they did?
 - Incentive

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Fiction by Dr. Deeren

- Now Change
 - Remove one character from your family story and insert:
 - Your character from "who drives this truck?"
 - How does the story change?
 - Characters
 - Setting
 - Conflict
- Let's Write
 - now begin writing by using the framework of your family story and the insertion of the new character, rewrite your family story.