Bell Ringers

Elements of Fiction & Short Stories

Week 1

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Week One Focus…

Plot

What's important about the plot?

Bell Ringer 1

Explain what you learn about the setting and the main character in this EXPOSITION:

Jack and his mother lived alone and were very poor. To supplement their meager amount of food, Jack's mother told him to take the only cow they owned and sell it in the village. They could use the money to plant crops, repair the barn, and buy new tools. So Jack set off down the long, dirt road and headed to the village to find a potential buyer.

Bell Ringer 2

The INCITING INCIDENT is that little thing that happens that starts all the trouble.

Watch this video about "Jack and the Beanstalk."

What is the INCITING INCIDENT?

In other words, think about what is that one little thing that happens that causes everything else in the story to happen, too?

Bell Ringer 3

This is the RISING ACTION of a story. How many pieces of rising action do you see here?

Tiny grains of light brown sand stuck to the bottoms of his feet, each one like a minuscule shard of glass. Robbie's feet churned over and over as he ran at a lightning-fast pace stumbling past the bicycle hut, around the umbrellas, and practically through the hot dog stand. Panicked, Robbie reached the front steps of the condo only to realize that it was locked and that he didn't have a key. Frustrated, he spun around to search for the hidden spare key only to knock it down from its hiding place and into the gutter.

Bell Ringer 3

This is the RISING ACTION of a story. How many pieces of rising action do you see here?

Tiny grains of light brown *sand stuck to the bottoms of his feet, each one like a minuscule shard of glass.* Robbie's feet churned over and over as he ran at a lightning-fast pace *stumbling past the bicycle hut, around the umbrellas, and practically through the hot dog stand.* Panicked, Robbie reached the front steps of the condo only to realize that *it was locked and that he didn't have a key.* Frustrated, he spun around to search for the hidden spare key *only to knock it down from its hiding place and into the gutter.*

1

2

3

4

Bell Ringer 4

Remember that the TURNING POINT is the part of the story where you don't know if or how the character will ever make it out of the situation.

Use your imagination to think of what would happen next that would be an awesome TURNING POINT in the story:

Tiny grains of light brown sand stuck to the bottoms of his feet, each one like a minuscule shard of glass. Robbie's feet churned over and over as he ran at a lightning-fast pace stumbling past the bicycle hut, around the umbrellas, and practically through the hot dog stand. Panicked, Robbie reached the front steps of the condo only to realize that it was locked and that he didn't have a key.Frustrated, he spun around to search for the hidden spare key only to knock it down from its hiding place and into the gutter.

Use the images in the plot diagram below to write an imaginative story.

Bell Ringer 5

