

Module 3 Chapter 1 Lesson 1 Assignment Instructions: Plot Types

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Due No Due Date **Points** 24 **Submitting** a text entry box, a website url, or a file upload



Module 3 Chapter 1 Lesson 1 Assignment: Plot Types

What am I doing?

For this assignment, you will review a selection of different types of plots. You should be able to describe the general expectations or actions contained in a number of these plot types. You should also examine a list of plot devices which are used to make these plots effective.

You will choose a movie, TV show, short story, written drama or novel with the purpose of finding an example that represents one of the types of plots.

For this evidence activity, you will:

- review the list of 20 plot types
- select **one** plot type from the list
- find **one** representative example of written or recorded (movies or TV) fiction for the selected plot type. Use a text that you know well



Write a short explication (approx. 350-400 words)

Your explication will:

- **identify** the plot type and explain the main features of that plot type (in your own words)
- **explain** how the work of fiction fits the plot type. Only use plot details when needed to show the *connection* between the specific work of fiction and the plot type. Do not summarize the entire plot!
- **analyze** how well this work of fiction conforms to the plot type it was chosen to represent. Is the story a perfect example? Is the story more than just an example of this plot type because of the way it develops character or symbolism? Does the story contain elements of other types of plots?
- **include** at least one plot device. See the link above.

Why am I doing it?

In this activity, you will show that you can recognize patterns in the plots of stories we encounter and explain how specific works of fiction relate to those patterns (archetypes).

In this activity, you will:

- Understand the constructed nature of plot in any narrative
- Identify and articulate expectations regarding various types of plots such as: quest, adventure , pursuit , rescue , escape, revenge, the riddle, rivalry underdog, and temptation
- Review a range of movies, TV shows, novels, written plays and short stories in relation to plot types
- Select examples of movies, TV shows, a novel or written play, and/or short stories as they represent different plot types
- Recognize how stories make use of particular plot devices, such as heroes, villains, in medias res, flashbacks, *Deus ex machine*, etc.
- Express your thoughts in writing in an organized and articulate manner

How will it be marked?

This assignment will be marked on the following criteria:

You have:

- followed the instructions above
- written in a formal tone in Standard English, with an awareness of the elements of writing, including sentence structure, grammar, spelling, and organization
- [assignment rubric](#) .

To see what an actual assignment might look like and how it would be marked with this rubric, click here to have a look at an [exemplar](#).

Marks: 30**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is taking ideas from someone else's work and passing it off as your own.

Regardless of whether you copy a paragraph, a sentence, or an idea, it is plagiarism. Even if you put in footnotes and a bibliography, you still cannot cut and paste sentences or paragraphs from sources into your work.

If you include an insight about any aspect of a text that you found online, for example, even if you put it into your own words, you must still identify where that idea came from.

Assignments that are plagiarized will receive a zero.

6 Point Scale - Plot Type Analysis

Criteria	Ratings							Pts
Level	24.0 pts Superior Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer looked through a wide range of work in various genres and found exemplary material to match the requirements for this activity. Content: The writing succinctly and accurately summarizes plots, identifies and explains plot types, and fully analyses and evaluates contributions of elements of these types relative to the selected narratives. Plot devices are accurately identified and their contributions to the plot types and narratives are discussed. The writing surprises with insight and deepens the reader's understanding through thoughtful analysis. The writing is controlled and	20.0 pts Proficient Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer looked through a range of work in various genres and found good material that matched the requirements of the activity. Content: The writing fully accomplishes the tasks of summarizing plots, identifying and explaining plot types, and analyzing the contributions of the plot types and plot devices in relation to the narratives. Topics are clearly stated and paragraphs are well crafted. The writing is controlled, demonstrates awareness of an audience, and maintains a consistent formal tone. Style: Composition is well organized, flowing, and	16.0 pts Competent Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer looked through a range of work in various genres and found appropriate material that matched the requirements of the activity. Content: The writing demonstrates a basic understanding of the task, summarizing plots, identifying and describing plot types, and attempting to analyze the contributions of the plot types and plot devices to the narratives. Topics are generally clearly stated, but connections between narratives and plot types may be superficial or presented in the form of a list. The writing is generally controlled, and demonstrates some	12.0 pts Barely Adequate Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer did not look much beyond movies and TV shows and seemed to have difficulty finding material for the requirements of this activity. Content: The writing only accomplishes the basic tasks of summarizing plots and identifying and explaining plot types, but may not analyse the relation of the plot types to the narratives. There may be no mention of plot devices. Development may be illogical and difficult to follow. The thesis may be unfocused and tone may waver (i.e., between formal and conversational.) Style: Uses a limited range of language, writing style, or techniques. Has difficulty clearly stating ideas. Vocabulary is basic, repetitive, or may be inappropriately used. Errors in	8.0 pts Inadequate Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer did not appear look beyond more than a few examples and did not read or view enough material to adequately complete this activity. Content: The writing does not accomplish the basic tasks of summarizing plots, identifying and explaining plot types, and analyzing the relation of the plot types to the narratives. There is no mention of plot devices. The writing may be flawed or incomplete. It may misrepresent work. It reflects little knowledge of the demands of writing for an audience. Style: The writing is informal and conversational. Language is imprecise; vocabulary is very basic, excessively colloquial or inappropriate	4.0 pts Unacceptable Selection: The assignment provides evidence that the writer did not appear look beyond more than a few examples and did not read or view enough material to adequately complete this activity. Content: The writing does not accomplish the basic tasks of summarizing plots, identifying and explaining plot types, and analyzing the relation of the plot types to the narratives. There is no mention of plot devices. The writing may be flawed or incomplete. It may misrepresent work. It reflects little knowledge of the demands of writing for an audience. Style: The writing is informal and conversational. Language is imprecise; vocabulary is very basic, excessively colloquial or inappropriate	0.0 pts No Marks No assignment submitted, or clearly plagiarized.	24.0 pts

Criteria				Ratings				Pts
	shows a keen awareness of audience. Style: The writing features complex, mature language. Vocabulary is sophisticated; rhetorical and language devices may be used to engage the reader and enhance meaning. It is economical and shows originality and inventiveness. Tone is controlled to evoke specific audience response through deliberate use of writing technique.	is grammatically and stylistically competent. Vocabulary is competently handled; language is effective. The writing has few or no spelling or sentence errors. Sentence construction shows variety. Vocabulary is complex and appropriate. Mechanics: Spelling, grammar, punctuation and usage are correct and appropriate. Structure strongly	awareness of audience, but it may be somewhat casual in tone. Style: Composition is simplistically organized. Sentence construction shows limited variety. Vocabulary is predictable, but it is generally appropriate; language use is mechanical and lacks variety. Mechanics: Spelling, grammar, usage and punctuation are generally correct and appropriate. Structure is	sentence flow, spelling, and punctuation occasionally impede understanding. Word choice is generally correct but not concise: may be repetitive. Mechanics: Spelling, grammar, usage and/or punctuation may be flawed. Structure is often in the form of a list; sentences are generally not linked by transitions. Errors begin to impede meaning.	to the audience. Style is immature and pays little or no attention to creating specific effects through word choice, sentence structure or organization. Mechanics: Writing is riddled with spelling, grammar, usage and/or punctuation errors. Structure is seriously flawed; errors impede meaning.	to the audience. Style is immature and pays little or no attention to creating specific effects through word choice, sentence structure or organization. Mechanics: Writing is riddled with spelling, grammar, usage and/or punctuation errors. Structure is seriously flawed; errors impede meaning.		
	Mechanics: Spelling, grammar and punctuation are correct and appropriate; usage is sophisticated. Structure is thoughtfully crafted to achieve a desired effect. The writing is virtually error free.	supports the writer's purpose. The writing contains few errors.	predictable and relatively mechanical. The writing contains some errors.	Total Points: 24.0				