

Required Summer Reading - 8th Grade 2022/2023

8th Grade students are required to read:

Chains by Laurie Halse Anderson

This historical fiction novel is set during the Revolutionary War, and tells the story of two slaves, Isabel and her younger sister Ruth, who were promised they would be freed upon their mistress's death. Instead, their late mistress's nephew sells them to the Locktons, a wealthy Loyalist and his mean-spirited wife. At the Locktons' home in New York, the girls work hard and are cruelly mistreated, while the British and Americans fight over the city. When a young enslaved man on the rebel side asks Isabel to become a spy, she agrees, based on his assurance that the rebels will help free her. However, the colonists are ultimately only interested in their own freedom, and by helping the rebels, Isabel risks her own safety.

A Plot Diagram is included to assist your student in remembering key characters, setting, events and important facts (they should include page numbers for reference). It is also best practice to annotate the novel as they read. They will need to bring their novel and completed Plot Diagram to class when they return in August.

Plot Diagram

Climax

Title _____
Author _____

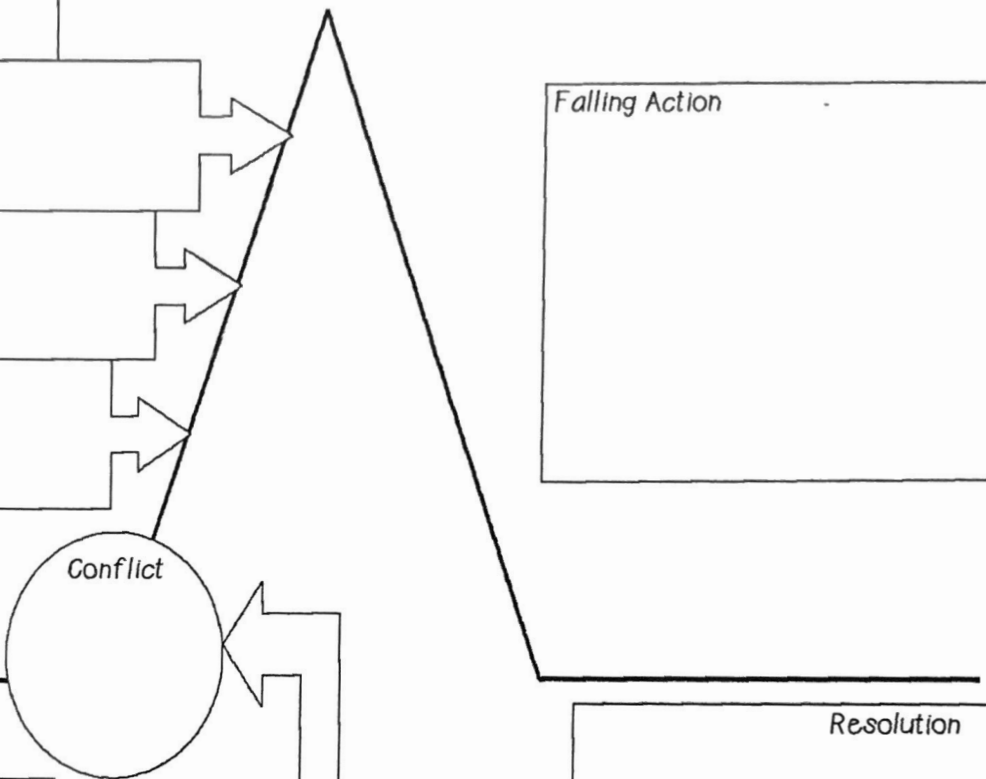
Rising Action

Four horizontal boxes for notes related to the Rising Action.

Large empty box for notes related to the Climax.

Falling Action

Large empty box for notes related to the Falling Action.



Exposition

Setting: _____

Situation: _____

Characters: _____

_____ vs. _____
Protagonist vs. Antagonist

Resolution

Large empty box for notes related to the Resolution.

Theme

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Large empty box at the bottom of the page for additional notes.