

LESSON**17****Plot****WORDS
TO KNOW**

Plot what happens in a story. The plot includes a conflict, or problem, that the main character must solve; rising action, or the events that lead to the climax of the story; the climax, or turning point, when the character decides how to address the problem; and a resolution, or how the conflict is resolved.

Review It!

Read these sentences. Use the Hint to help you identify the conflict that is described.

It was Joseph's turn in the Spelling Bee. He started to speak, but was having trouble spelling the word in his mind. Joseph began to panic. Then he spotted his grandfather in the audience, smiling at him. Grandpa was Joseph's spelling coach.

Hint Joseph's conflict is described near the beginning of the text. How do you think his grandfather's smile and support will help Joseph solve his problem?

Try It!

Read this passage. As you read, underline words that tell you what the conflict is and circle words that tell you how the conflict is resolved.

- 1 Andrea rode the bus to school every day. She sat next to Colleen. In fact, Andrea and Colleen were best friends. Mr. Harrison, the bus driver, liked Andrea. He knew she was a good kid. So when Julie moved into the neighborhood, he knew he could count on her for help.
- 2 The next morning when Andrea got on the bus, Mr. Harrison stopped her before she could walk to her seat. He explained that Julie didn't speak English well. He asked Andrea if she could help Julie with her English.
- 3 Andrea felt as if she didn't have a choice. She walked to her seat, where she found a girl she had never seen before. Andrea looked around and saw Colleen, sitting in the back of the bus, laughing with some other kids. Andrea plopped down in the seat and moped.

Now, use the passage to answer the questions on the following page.

1. What problem does Julie have?
 - A. She doesn't want to be friends with Andrea.
 - B. She doesn't want to ride the school bus.
 - C. She does not know how to speak English.
 - D. She took someone else's seat on the bus.

2. Mr. Harrison tries to solve Julie's problem by
 - A. giving her English lessons
 - B. asking Andrea to help her
 - C. driving her to school
 - D. telling her to ride the bus

3. What happens when Andrea boards the bus?
 - A. Mr. Harrison asks her to sit in a new seat.
 - B. Andrea asks Julie to change seats.
 - C. Andrea and Colleen have an argument.
 - D. Mr. Harrison asks Andrea to sit with Julie.

4. What is the problem in the passage?
 - A. Andrea wants to sit by Colleen.
 - B. Andrea doesn't understand French.
 - C. Andrea doesn't like Julie.
 - D. Mr. Harrison punishes Andrea.

In Your Own Words

5. Why does Andrea mope when she sits down?



1.

How is Julie different from the other students?

4.

Look back at the passage. Which sentences did you underline?

5.

What does Andrea see before she sits down next to Julie?