

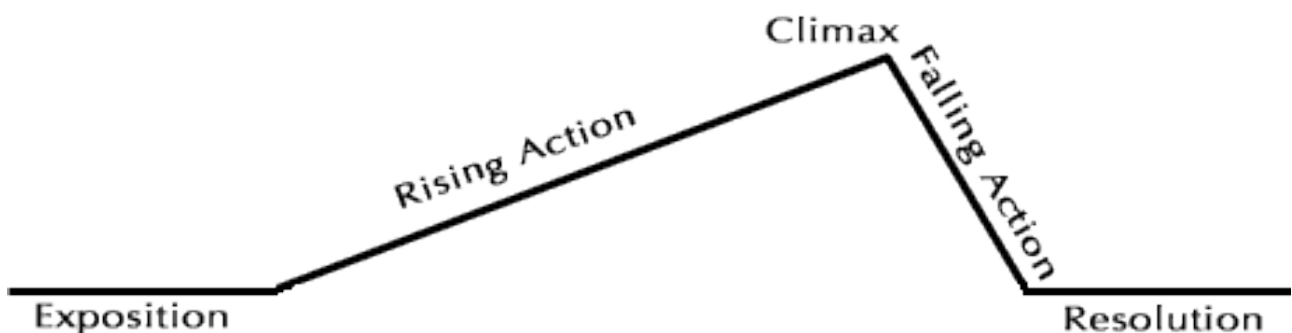
THE CHRYSALIDS

PLOT STRUCTURE DIAGRAM

The Chrysalids breaks down into a traditional five-part plot structure. These parts are as follows:

- **exposition** - an introduction to the main characters, settings, and situations of the plot
- **rising action** - the events and complications that lead to an important and dramatic point in the plot
- **climax** - the point of greatest interest and emotional involvement in the plot
- **falling action** - the events that develop from the climax and lead to the conclusion
- **resolution or denouement** - the final outcome which ties up any loose ends left in the story

This structure can be depicted as a lopsided pyramid, with two base lines.



Directions

Below is a list of major episodes in The Chrysalids.

- 1) Write the numbers from 11 to 1 counting down your page. Be sure to leave an even amount of space between each number and try to use the whole page.
- 2) Write the major episodes on the paper in order; starting at the end of the novel and working your way back.
- 3) After you finish putting the events in proper order, turn the diagram sideways and draw the pyramid diagram (right over your answers in a different colour ink) to reflect where the five elements of the plot occur. Then label the parts of the pyramid (Most of the elements will fall under rising action).

Note: Your pyramid should look a little lopsided like the example above (one side longer than the other)

Major Episodes:

- Petra, through her awesome telepathic powers, gets in touch with a distant civilization in New Zealand (Sealand).
- David meets Sophie Wender and discovers that she is a physical deviant with six toes on each foot.
- David sees his aunt driven to suicide because she has given birth to a deviant baby.
- David, Rosalind, and Petra flee to the Fringes, where they are pursued by the people of Waknuk, including David's own father.
- The birth of David's little sister, Petra, causes innumerable problems.
- Under torture Katherine and then Sally admit that David, Rosalind, and Petra also have the ability of mind reading.
- In the Fringes, David, Rosalind, and Petra are captured by the deviate inhabitants.
- David, Petra, and Rosalind escape by helicopter to New Zealand.
- David is concerned for his own personal safety when he realizes that he and his group of E.S.P. friends are also deviants
- As a child, David has learned the strict morality of his society: "Watch Thou for the Mutant," "The Norm is the Will of God," and "The Devil is the Father of Deviation."
- The people of Waknuk invade the Fringes camp. A major battle ensues and David and his friends are caught in the middle.