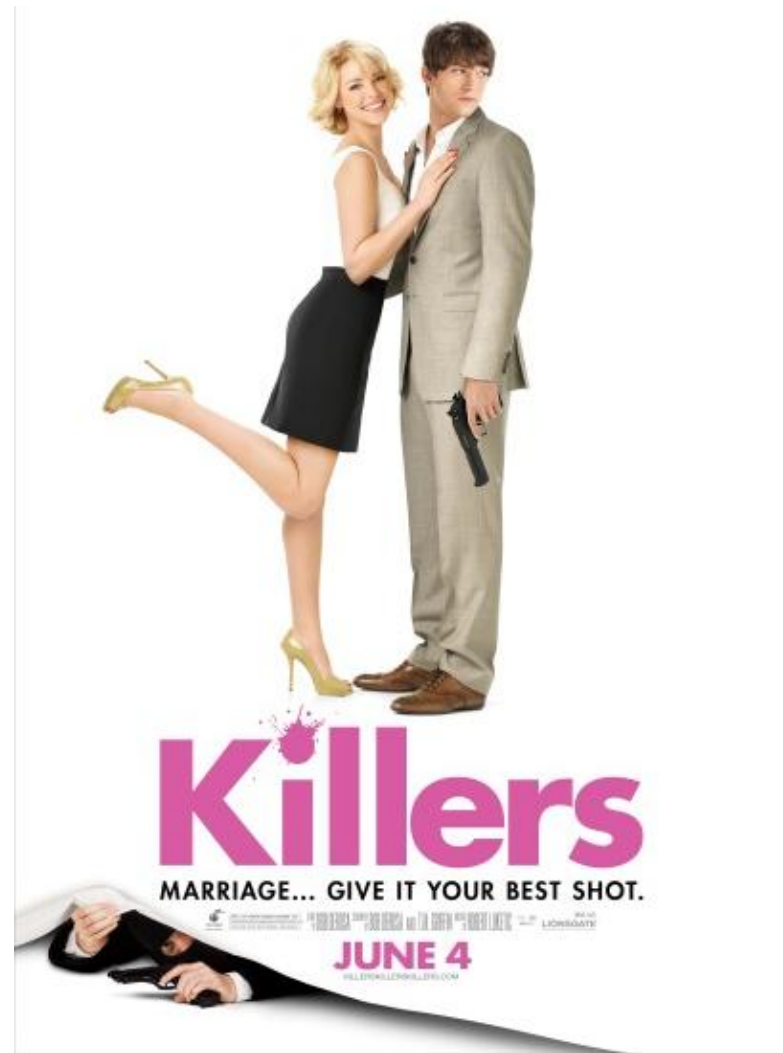
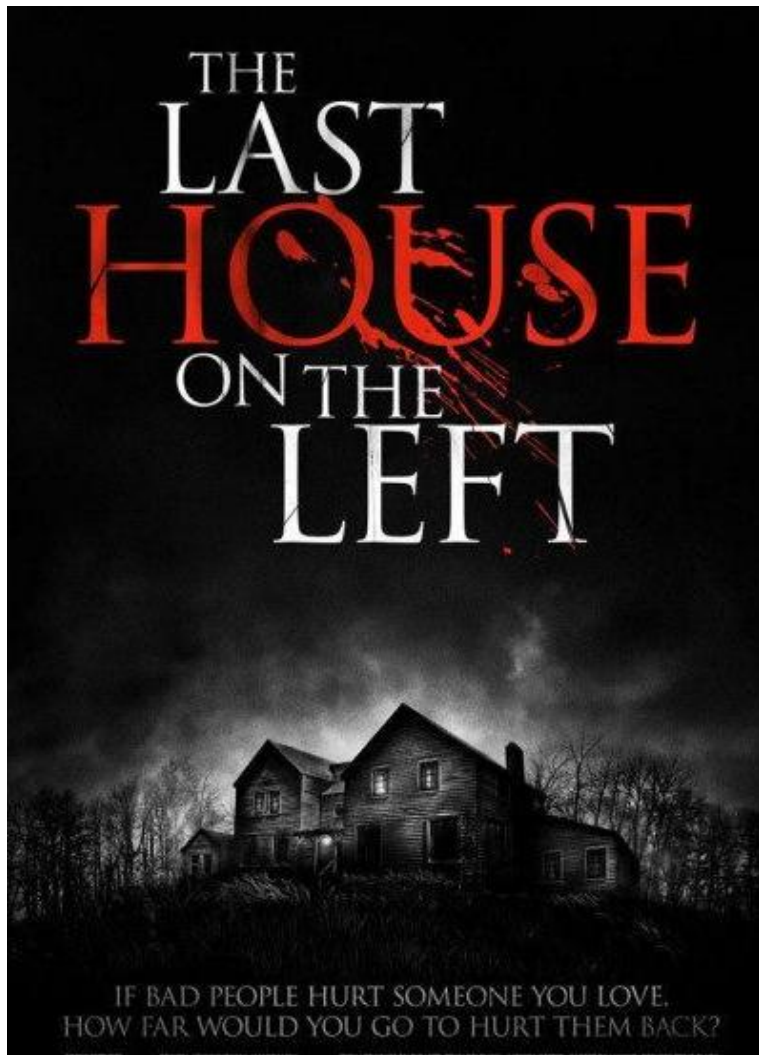


## Conventions of Comedy

LO: To understand the conventions and typical structure of the genre of comedy.

What does the term 'genre' mean?



Genre

Identify what genre of film you think each poster is for. Be prepared to explain why!

What does the phrase 'conventions of Comedy' mean?

What does the word 'conventions' mean?

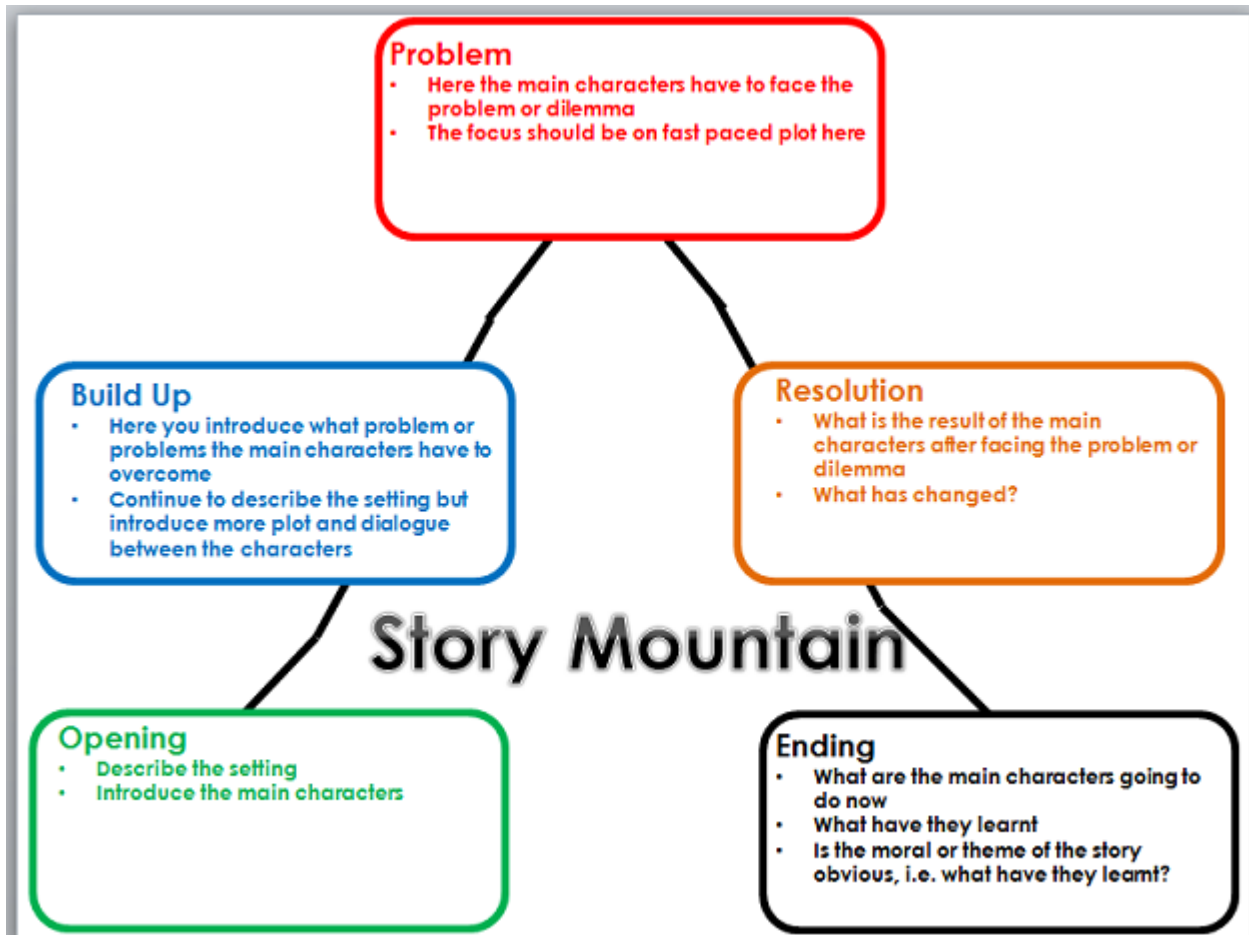
## **Learning questions:**

What are the conventions of a comedy?

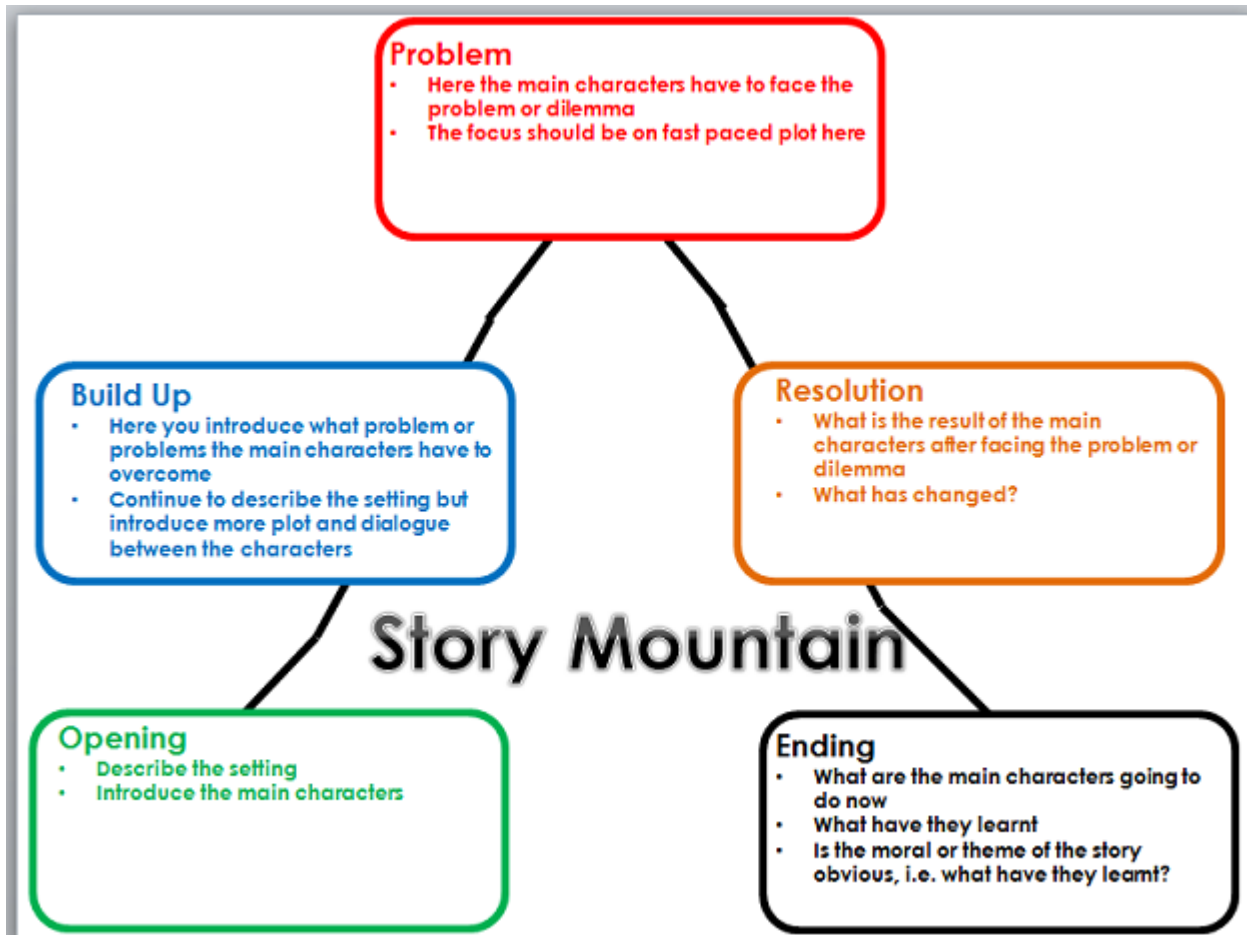
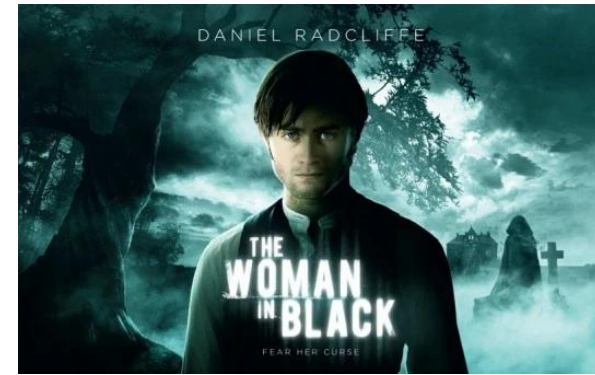
How is a comedy structured?

How has comedy altered since Shakespeare's time?

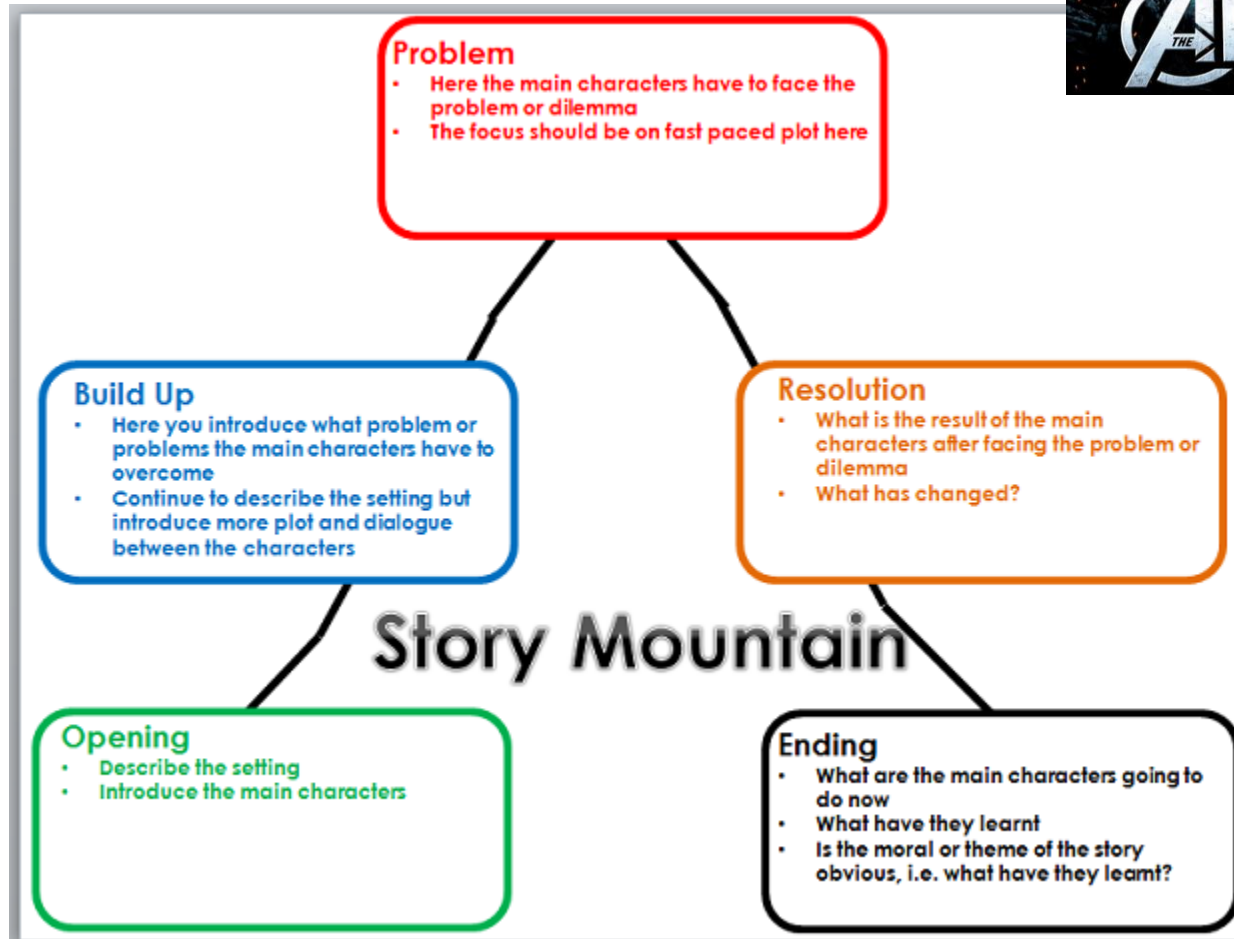
Plot conventions: what usually happens in the story.



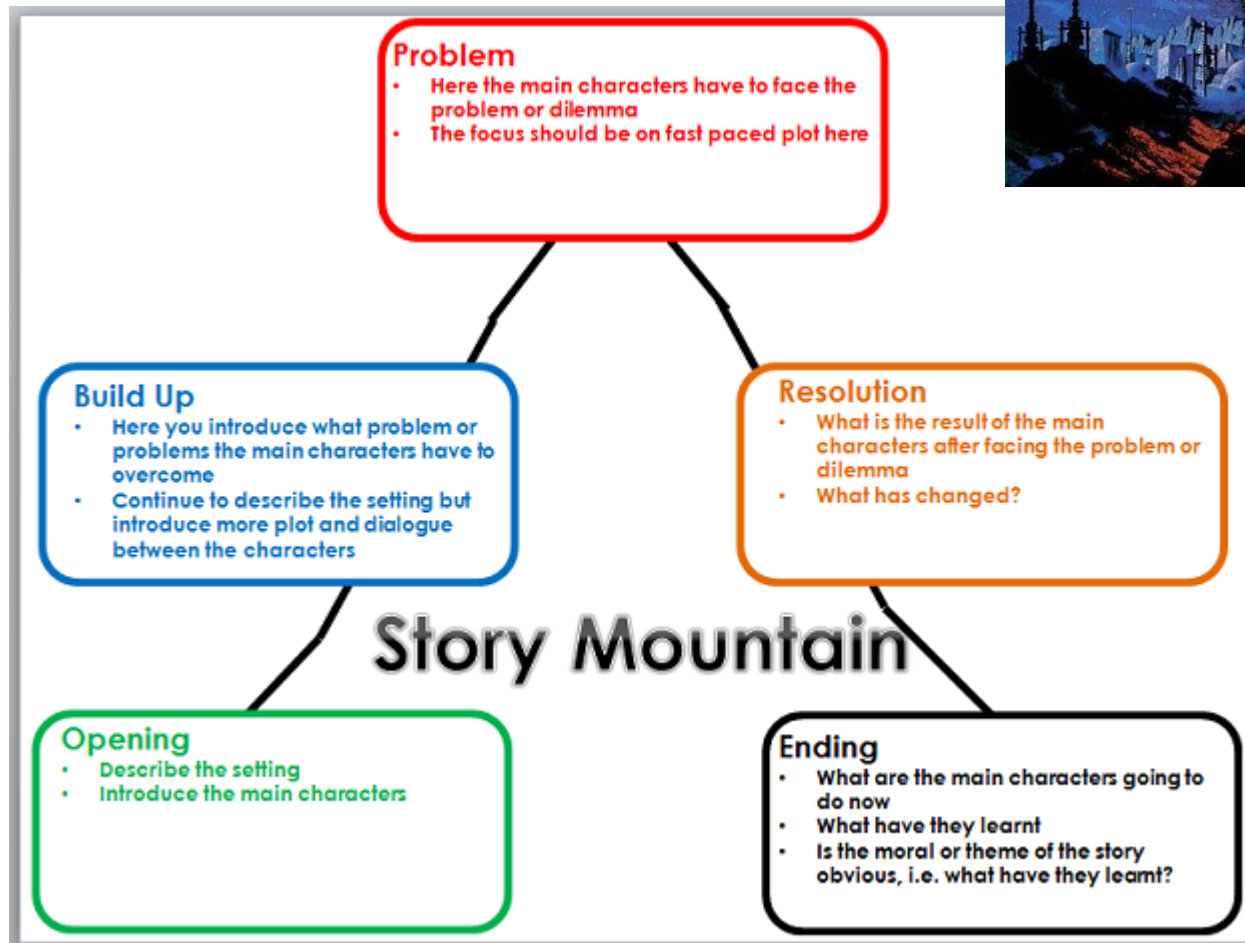
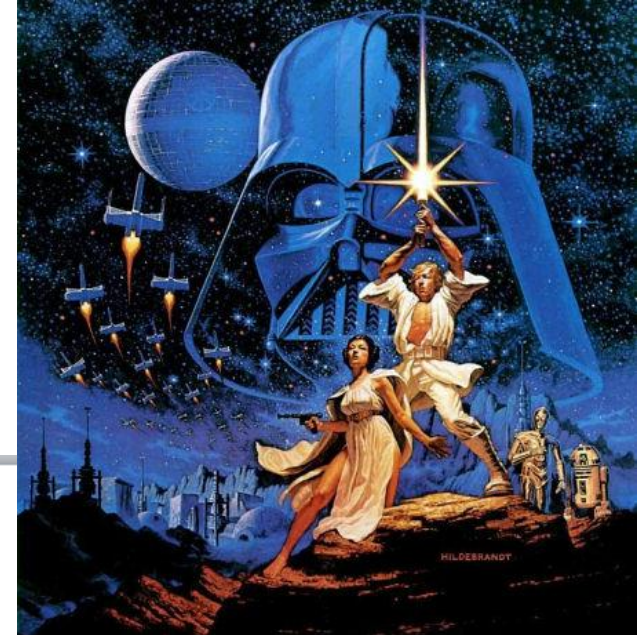
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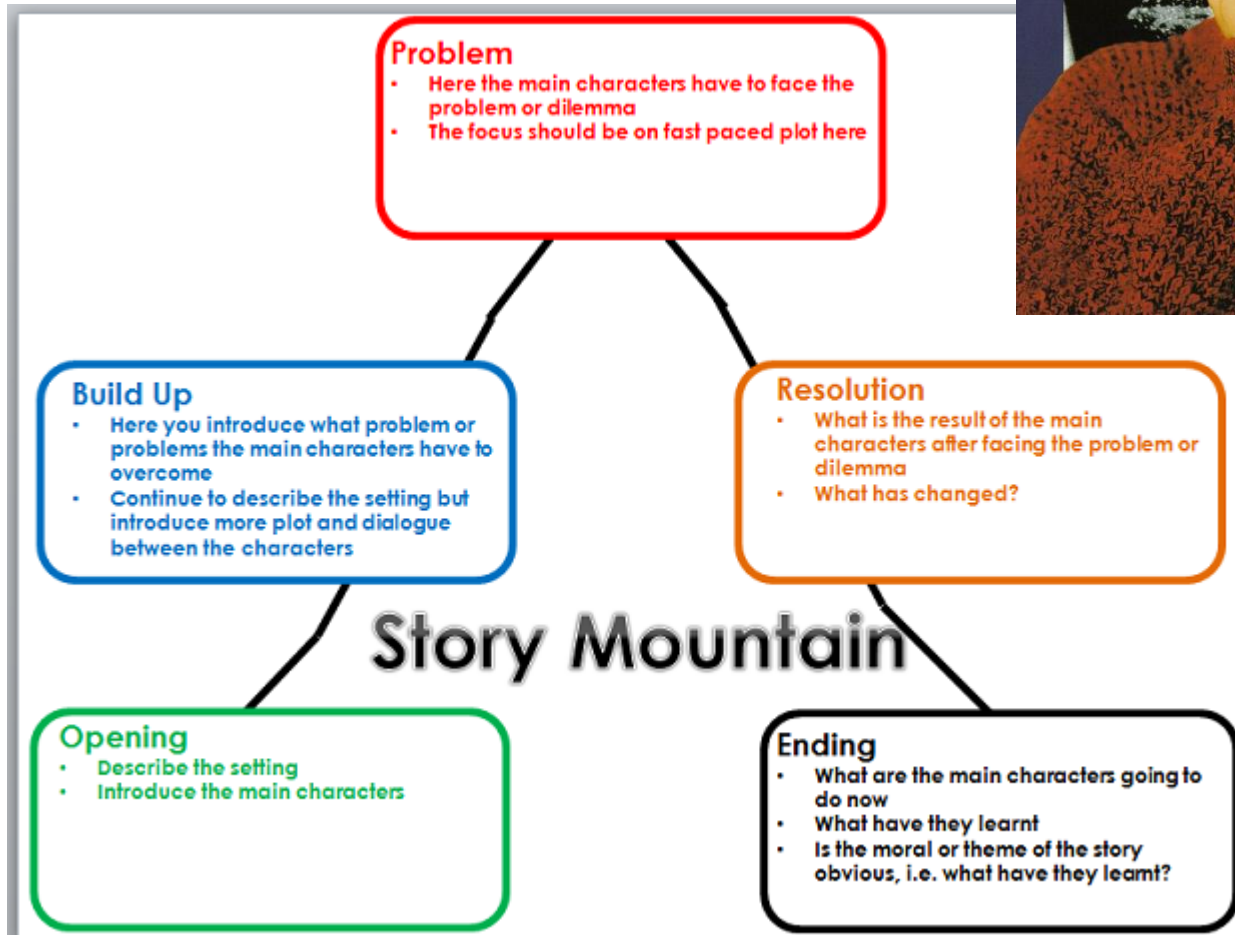
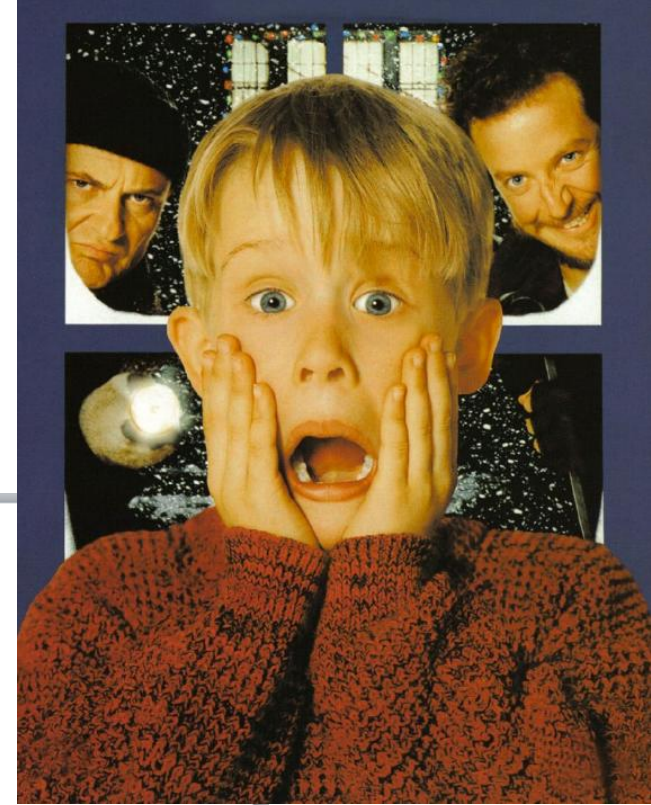
Plot conventions: what usually happens in the story.



Plot conventions: what usually happens in the story.



Plot conventions: what usually happens in the story.




## Comedy


- Many of Shakespeare's comedies were romantic comedies. What we would call a rom-com (romantic comedy)
- They all follow the same structure. You will probably recognise it from films you have watched.
- What order do you think the conventions might go in?




Opening: There is usually a happy event. The scene is set, we see what normal life is like.




Romance: There is a couple who like each other. They might or might not be together.



Complication: There will be a problem that stops the couple being together. Often it is to do with mistaken identity.




Resolution: The problem will be fixed and the couple can be together again.




Ending: There will be a happy event. Everything is back to normal.


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Where is the peak in tension be for the audience?

**Let's plan our own Shakespearean  
Comedy (based on real life)!**

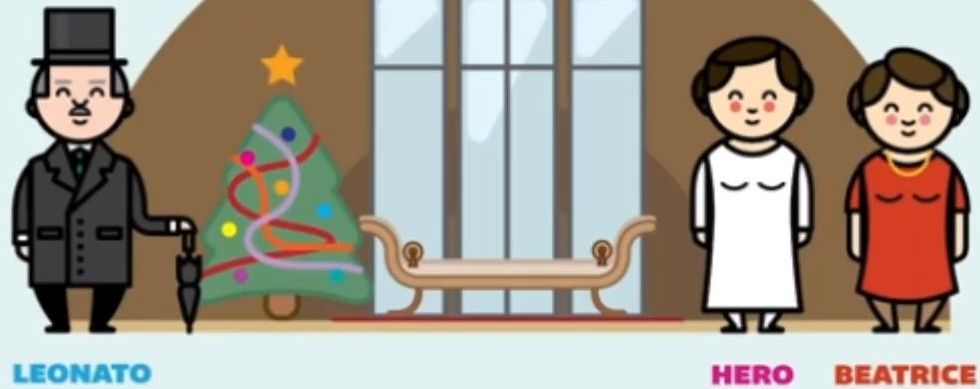
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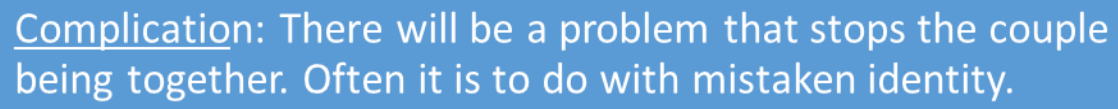
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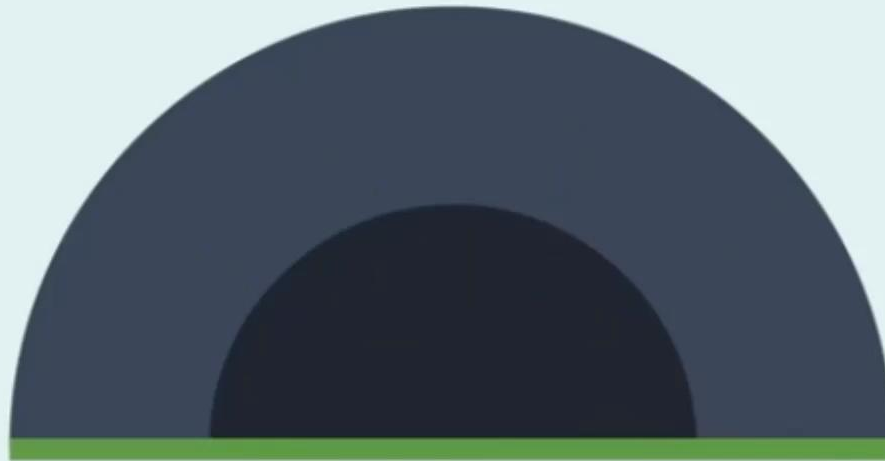
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**AFFECTION**

**EVERYONE  
IS IN  
LOVE**

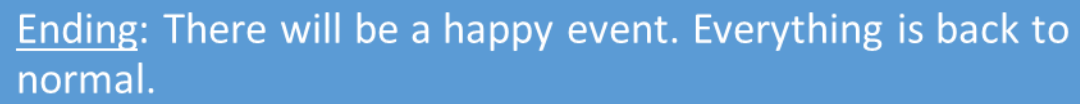
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Ending: There will be a happy event. Everything is back to normal.



Ending: There will be a happy event. Everything is back to normal.

- The Prince arrives at Leonato's home after winning the war.
- Beatrice and Benedick argue.
- Claudio falls in love with Hero at first sight.
- The Prince, Don Pedro, agrees to arrange Claudio's marriage to Hero.
- Don Jon plots to cause trouble, with the help of Conrade and Borachio.
- Benedick dresses up in disguise at a party but Beatrice recognises him and deliberately insults him. Benedick is really offended.
- Claudio is told by Don Jon, the Prince's brother, that the Prince wants to marry Hero.
- Claudio gets angry but then finds out Don Jon was wrong; Claudio and Hero get engaged.
- Beatrice and Benedick are tricked by their friends into admitting to themselves that they love one another– but they don't tell each other.
- Claudio sees Hero's maid having sex with Borachio; he thinks it is Hero
- He shames her at their wedding, and Hero faints.
- Hero's family fakes her death to clear her name.
- Beatrice is furious with Claudio; Benedick admits his love for Beatrice and agrees to challenge Claudio to a dual.
- Don John's plot is discovered; Borachio and Conrade are caught by The Watch.
- Claudio agrees to marry 'Hero's cousin' to make up for killing Hero.
- Claudio and Hero marry; Benedick and Beatrice admit their love publicly.

Comic structure / plot	
Opening:	Characters
Romance:	
Complication:	
Resolution:	Setting
Ending:	

Comic structure / plot	
<u>Opening:</u> Characters introduced / everyone is happy and in order	<u>Characters</u> Confused lovers Fools Tricksters
<u>Romance:</u> Unrequited love / people in love that aren't together yet	
<u>Complication:</u> Someone tricks / lies / fools lovers – they fall out / chaos	<u>Setting</u> Cities Parties / celebrations
<u>Resolution:</u> Lovers make up. Trickster is revealed.	<u>Themes</u> Disguise / deceit Mistaken identity Inversion
<u>Ending:</u> Marriage / happily ever after / order restored	

## Homework

### **Research A Midsummer Night's Dream.**

1. Fill in the table to show what happens in the play.
2. Plan your own conventional comedy.