

Story Elements

These elements are found in every story:

Element	Explanation
Characters	Hero — people* we root for Villain — people we root against Supporting Cast — people who share the world with the hero and villain *People can be one individual, a team, a group, animals, forces of nature or other actors.
Location	Where the story takes place Where the story is being told
Goal	What is it the hero wants? What is it the villain wants? Conflict arises because it seems in the beginning that the hero and villain cannot both get what they want.
Stakes	What would happen if the hero wins? If they lose? What would happen if the villain wins? If they lose?

Practice

Element	Your Story
Who is the Hero or Heroes? (Character)	
Who is the Villain? (Character)	
Who is in the Supporting Cast? (Character)	
Location where the story takes place	
What is the Hero's goal? What do they want?	
What is the Villain's goal? What do they want?	
What is at Stake? What is gained for the Hero and/or the world if they achieve their goal? What is lost for the Hero and/or the world if the Villain achieves their goal?	