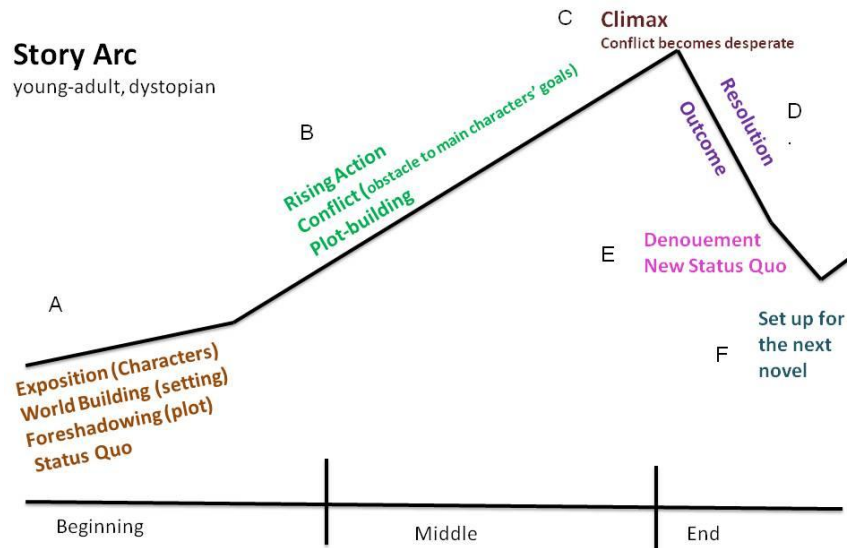




## Story Arc in *Backbiters* before reading



**Story Arc:** the development or resolution of the narrative or principal theme of a story; the overall shape of rising and falling tension or emotion, created with plot and character development



Please figure out which of the following parts of the story belong where on the story arc chart and place the corresponding letter in the blank.

In a high school in Somewhereville, Wisconsin, Konnando joked with his friends before class. \_\_\_\_\_ English was his favorite class because the teacher, Ms. Ambrilliant, was so kind and inspiring. \_\_\_\_\_ Konnando loved to take it easy in English class. \_\_\_\_\_ That day, however, Ms. Ambrilliant stood before the class and announced that they would read an entire novel over the next several weeks and would each graph out the story arc as well. \_\_\_\_\_ Konnando nearly choked on his KitKat. \_\_\_\_\_ How was he supposed to read an entire novel when he planned to compose a symphony before spring break? \_\_\_\_\_ Reading was one thing, but understanding the story arc was a big challenge. \_\_\_\_\_ Konnando decided to drop the class. \_\_\_\_\_ He went to his guidance counselor who told him that if he dropped the class, he wouldn't get into college, so he should take some time to think it over. \_\_\_\_\_ *I don't care*, Konnando thought, *this symphony is all that matters. I just have to make sure my parents don't find out. They'll be furious and might ground me and not let me work on the symphony anyway.* \_\_\_\_\_ The next day he was on his way to change his life by dropping the class when Angela stopped him in the hallway. \_\_\_\_\_

"Hey," she said, "I've started reading this novel, and it's really a quick read. Do you want to start a study group to read and discuss the story arc?" \_\_\_\_\_

Konnando realized that Angela presented the perfect solution. \_\_\_\_\_ He wouldn't have to drop English. \_\_\_\_\_ He could go to college! \_\_\_\_\_ His parents would ground him! \_\_\_\_\_ He could write the symphony! \_\_\_\_\_

That night, Konnando read the first chapter of the book and enjoyed it quite a bit. \_\_\_\_\_ Life was going his way. \_\_\_\_\_

In the next English class, Ms. Ambrilliant announced that the students would each perform an original poem. \_\_\_\_\_ Oh no! Konnando didn't like to perform in front of a group . . . \_\_\_\_\_