

Questions for Plot Structure

NAME: _____

<p>Exposition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • last half of 1865 • South Carolina/Georgia • Pascal, Gideon, Nelly • They want to find 40 Acres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where and when does the story take place? • Who are the protagonist and the most important characters to the protagonist? • What is the basic problem that the characters will need to overcome? • What action starts the story moving?
<p>Rising Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They meet Mr. Freedman who is a carpenter. • They meet the Bibbs, who are abolitionists, while hiding from the Night Riders. • Finding the Freedmen's Bureau/Asking for the land. • Arriving at their 40 Acres, it was the prettiest land they had ever seen. • Finding the gold under the Ghost Tree. They keep some and share some with the Bibbs and the workers. • They run into Black Codes, and have to get work contracts filled out. • Paschal comes up with ideas to keep Night Riders away from their farm. • The schoolhouse and Jubilee Town are burned, and other farms owned by freedmen are destroyed. • Gideon and Gladness, Mr. Freedman's granddaughter, get married. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most important events leading to the climax? • What are good/bad things that happen? • What other characters do we meet that help move the story along? • Focus on actions not ideas or theme. • This section should include 8 – 10 specific plot events that move the story forward.
<p>Climax</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City's farm was taken away. There was nothing they could do about it because it was technically “legal”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this the most important event dealing with the main problem? • Does the story start "wrapping up" after this event? • Remember, this has to relate back to the characters’ basic problem from the exposition.
<p>Falling Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They fill in the well, and give the house and cotton to the Bibbs. • Mr. Freedmen and the workers leave. Mr. Freedman gives his work contract to Gideon so he can travel safely. • Leave some gold and the title to the farm for another freedman to find. 	<p>Does it start wrapping up the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaction to the climax • Questions being answered/mystery solved • Major characters leaving
<p>Resolution or Denouement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City family leaves to find new land that they can buy with the Ghost Tree gold. • They are happy because they realize what freedom really means. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the main problem solved? • What lesson did the main characters learn?