

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Story Pyramid Exercise

**Directions:** *Read the following plot summaries, and then write what the expositions, inciting moments, rising actions, climaxes, falling actions and denouements are.*

### ***The Iron Giant plot summary***

Hogarth Hughes is a 9-year-old boy living in Rockwell, Maine in 1957. One night, while home alone, a large object comes crashing down from the sky and lands behind his house. He goes to investigate, and comes across a robotic giant feeding on the metal in a power plant. Hogarth is chased away by the strange machine, but returns and meets up with him again the next morning. The giant begins to follow him home, and Hogarth eventually allows him to live in the shed behind his house. Hogarth befriends the giant and the giant begins to speak and even learn. However, Kent Mansley, a government agent, sees the giant as a threat to the country, and isn't about to let him get away. Kent Mansley calls in all types of reinforcements to destroy the robot. After attacking it unsuccessfully several times, a nuclear missile is accidentally fired from a battleship.

It seems that the missile will destroy the town. Once the nuclear missile is launched, the Iron Giant sacrifices himself to save the town of Rockwell, Maine by flying into space and colliding with it before it reenters Earth's atmosphere. After his presumed death, a statue is built in his honor. Hogarth gets along in the community after the robots death. One day, Hogarth discovers a stray bolt from the giant's remains, but it reactivates and makes its way (along with all the giant's other parts) to a glacier in Iceland, where he is self-reassembling.

### **Exposition:**

**inciting incident:**

**Rising Action:**

**Climax:**

**Falling Action:**

## **Denouement:**

### ***Shrek plot summary***

SHREK is grumpy, smelly and ugly ogre, living peacefully in a swamp. One night, he suddenly finds his land has been inhabited by a mass of fairy-tale creatures (Pinocchio, the three little pigs, Peter Pan, Snow White, Cinderella, among others), who have been banished by the evil Lord Farquaad. One of these is Donkey (who just won't shut up). Accompanied by him, Shrek confronts Lord Farquaad, demanding his land back. Farquaad gives him a deal, telling him to rescue Princess Fiona from a dragon-guarded castle, to get his swamp back.

Shrek and Donkey go and rescue the Princess, narrowly avoiding being burned by the Dragon, who tries to seduce Donkey (being a girl Dragon!). Fiona is disgruntled about being rescued by an ugly ogre, rather than Prince Charming. However, despite their differences, she and Shrek grow fond of each other. On the second night of their return journey, Fiona hides in a windmill. Donkey finds her, and discovers that she's turned into an ogress. She explains that she's under a spell, which can only be broken by true love's first kiss. Shrek overhears part of this, but misunderstands and thinks she doesn't love him because he's ugly.

Just as she decides to tell Shrek the truth, the sun rises and she becomes a beautiful princess again. Lord Farquaad arrives and takes Fiona to his castle, and Shrek returns to his swamp. Both are miserable.

Later, Shrek, Donkey and Dragon head to Farquaad's castle, to try to stop Fiona marrying him. When they arrive, the sun sets and Fiona becomes an ogress again. Farquaad doesn't want to marry her, and sets the guards on everybody, but Dragon comes to the rescue and eats Farquaad up. Shrek and Fiona kiss. Therefore, Fiona stays ugly (in conformity with the spell: "you find true love's first kiss and then take love's true form"). Fiona will forever be an ugly ogre like Shrek. She marries Shrek in a big wedding with all the fairy tale creatures, and they live "ugly" ever after.

## **Exposition:**

### **inciting incident:**

## **Rising Action:**

## **Climax:**

## **Falling Action:**

## **Denouement:**