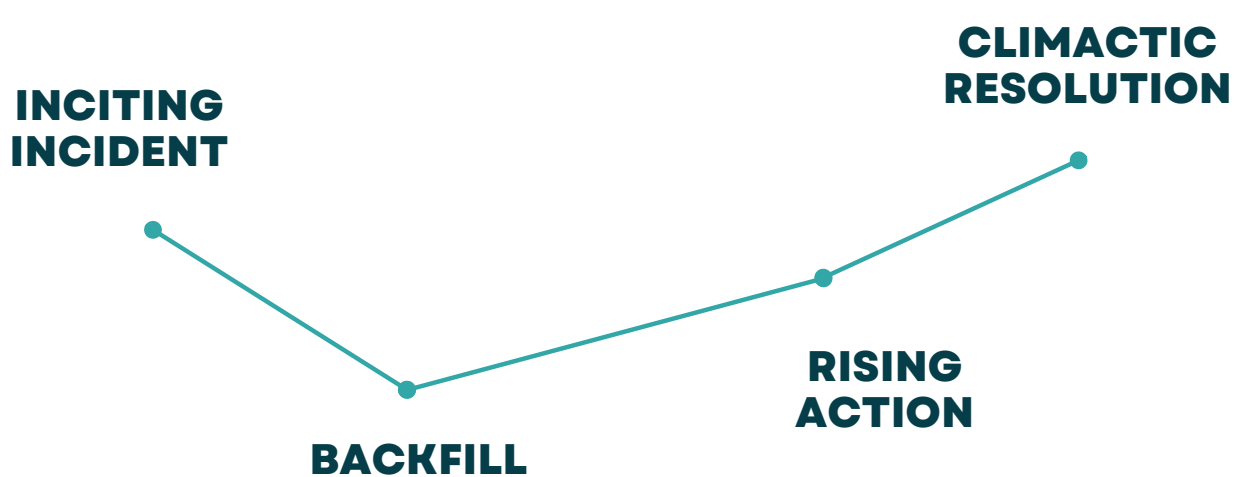


THE SWOOSH NARRATIVE

The swoosh narrative is a basic formula that can be used for writing a short story under timed conditions. It only has four main plot sections and two or three characters. It has a single time frame, place or location and action or situation. The protagonist must grow or change because of some catalyst. It doesn't need a clear resolution but one should be implied.



INCITING INCIDENT

1

Start in media res, in the middle of action, to grip your reader's attention and engage them through an exciting hook. Use emotive language and verbs to create action.

BACKFILL

2

With careful signposting to flash back, provide the back story as to how the characters arrived in this situation they are in.

RISING ACTION

3

Build tension and suspense while you return to the present and progress the plot towards the climax.

CLIMACTIC RESOLUTION

4

Finish at a high point of tension, but one where the reader can imagine how the rest of the story plays out.