

WRITING WRIGHT

GRADE: 3-5

TIME: Two 50-minute sessions OR three 30-minute sessions

In this lesson, students will identify key literary terms and concepts. They will explore using a real building as the setting for a fictional story through Blue Balliett's *The Wright 3* and set a story of their own at a Frank Lloyd Wright site, using his architecture as inspiration for their writing.

INTEGRATED SUBJECTS: Language Arts, Media Literacy

OBJECTIVES

MATERIALS | RESOURCES

The Wright 3 by Blue Balliett

- ◇ CPS and D97 teachers can find information about renting classroom copies at <https://flwright.org/education/school-programs/rentable-learning-kits>

Notebooks

Pencils

Access to a device with internet

Worksheets (included below)

1. Identify and understand key literary terms and concepts using *The Wright 3*.
2. Research one of Wright's works and determine key details to include in a piece of creative writing.
3. Write a scene with the researched building as the setting.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. What are the most important aspects of a story?
2. How can the setting impact the tone or themes of a piece of writing?
3. How can we incorporate real history into works of fiction?

LESSON PROCEDURE

EXPLORE

Session One

- Have students read *The Wright 3* by Blue Balliett before the lesson. You can read the entire book or key chapters—recommended chapters to review for this lesson are Chapter 10 through Chapter 12, or any chapter where the Robie House is the setting or plays a key role.
- Review essential literary terms with students.
- Have students find examples of each term in *The Wright 3* using the attached worksheet.
 - ◊ Discuss the examples as a class.
- Complete the Plot Mapping Activity as a class, taking answers from students for each plot element.

ENGAGE

Session Two

- Review Key Architectural Terms as a class.
- Allow each student to explore Frank Lloyd Wright's work at <https://flwright.org/explore/buildings-wrights-chicago-years> or <https://franklloydwright.org/work/> independently. Once a student has selected a work to focus on, pass out the Setting the Scene worksheet.

DESIGN

Session Two or Three

- Instruct students to write a scene that takes place at the Frank Lloyd Wright building you researched. The scene can either be from the perspective of:
 - ◊ A person who takes cover in the building on a dark, stormy night.
 - ◊ A kid who just moved in next door to the building.
 - ◊ Frank Lloyd Wright during the construction of the building.
- The scene should include:
 - ◊ Three real details from the building.
 - ◊ Two emotions that your character is feeling.
 - ◊ One surprise detail of your own creation.

Essential Literary Terms



Plot

The main events of a story. Elements of a plot are exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

Conflict

Conflict is the force that drives the plot of a story and causes the characters to act.

Characterization

The way a character is represented in a story, which may help the reader understand a character's actions and feelings.

Setting

Where the story takes place. A story may have multiple settings, or the setting may change as the story develops.

Point of View

The perspective from which a story is told. A story can be told from the first-person, second-person, or third-person point of view.

Sensory Details

Details that appeal to one of the five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch.

Name:

Find examples of each term in *The Wright 3*



Plot

Conflict

Characterization

Setting

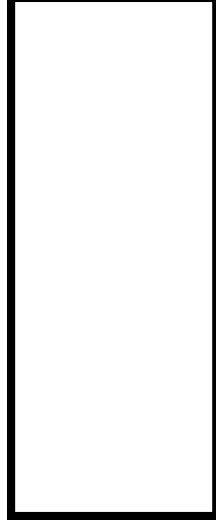
Point of View

Sensory Details

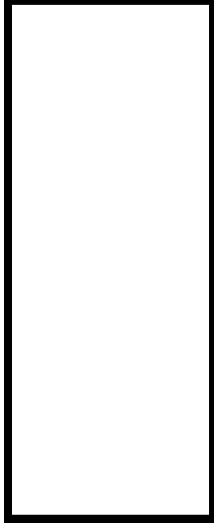
Plot Mapping Activity

Map the plot of *The Wright 3*

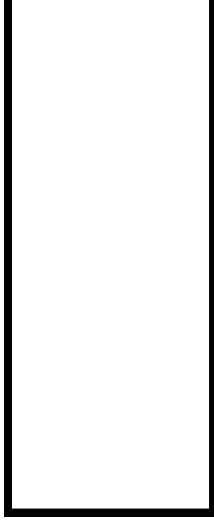
Climax



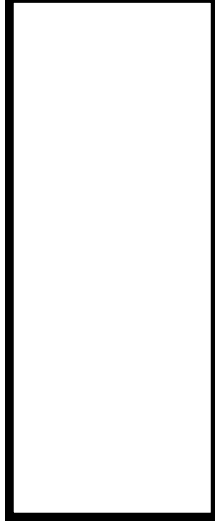
Rising Action



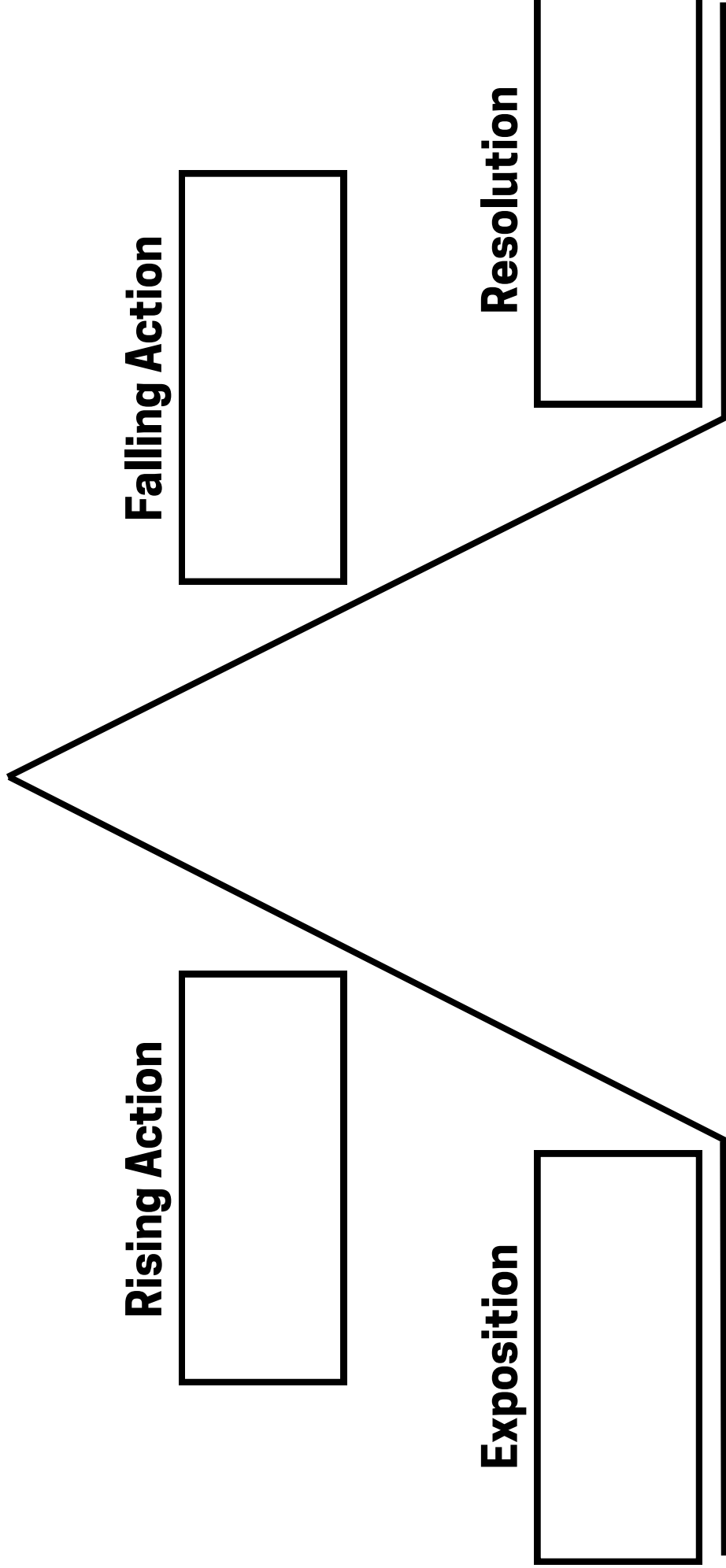
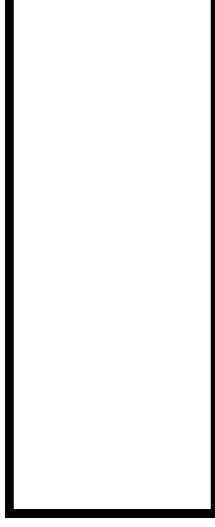
Falling Action



Exposition



Resolution



Key Architectural Terms



Prairie style

Architectural style developed by Frank Lloyd Wright which drew inspiration from the flat, broad landscape of the Midwestern prairies. Some people refer to this as the first uniquely American style of architecture, as most homes were built in European styles at this time.

Usonian

A form of Organic Architecture developed by Wright in the 1930s which focused on providing affordable homes to the American middle class. Like the Prairie style, these homes were influenced by nature and the American landscape.

Organic Architecture

The idea that architecture should respond to and exist in harmony with the space around it. Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie style is an example of Organic Architecture.

Name:

Setting the Scene

After you've chosen where your story will take place,
do some research on the setting

Where is it?

When was it made?

Who was it made for?

What does it look like?

What details interest you most? Why?