

INVASIVE PLANT

Student Video Challenge

Features of a Short Film Plot

Hook ~ Transition from real world to film world. This usually starts in the middle of a mess or mid-level climax to get the audience quickly into the story.

Setup ~ The lead character is introduced with external wants (plot goals) and internal needs (theme goals). Limits and rules of film world are established.

Inciting incident ~ An event happens that changes the status quo (what's normal), forcing protagonist to take action to restore what is normal.

Journey into unknown ~ Protagonist sets off to accomplish his goal, leaving what is safe and normal behind and entering the vast unknown (physically, emotionally, or spiritually).

Investigation ~ Protagonist searches for the goal object or information while encountering a series of obstacles, interactions, or conflict.

Turning point / big twist ~ A big plot twist, unexpected surprise, plot goal change, new information or unforeseen problems occurs to test the new change in the character.

Final confrontation ~ Confrontation between two characters has been building since the beginning of the story and it finally happens.

Climax ~ The most intense moment of the film; every big grand moment full of importance, tension, and epiphanies.

Resolution ~ Ties up loose ends in the story. Who lives/dies, wins/loses, gets the girl/guy, returns with the treasure, celebrates after a quest, or has a big death scene in a tragedy.

