



The Five Part Story

Part ONE:

Balance

Establishes the Central Character
and the Normal Situation

Keys:

Central Character
Normal for this story

Sample:

**“Susie walks down the
street with her dog.”**

Your Balance:

Part TWO:

Unbalance

Something happens that unbalances
the normal world

Event –“happens”
to Central Character
Must Unbalance

**“Suddenly, the dog
breaks her leash and
runs into the park.”**

Your Un-Balance:

The Five Part Story



Part THREE:

Quest

The Central Character does something to restore balance

Keys:

Action –“does something”
by Central Character
Direct to Unbalance

Sample:

“Susie runs after her dog, yelling, ‘Fifi! Fifi! Come back!’”

Your Quest:

Part FOUR:

Crisis

Something happens that prevents the Quest from working

Action – “happens”
Direct to Quest
(Not a new problem)

“A policeman grabs Susie and says, ‘You cannot walk on the grass!’”

Your Crisis:

Part FIVE:

New Balance

As a result of the CC actions, a new balance is put into place

Includes Climax
Resolution
NEW

“Susie gazes into the policeman’s eyes, he gazes into her eyes, they fall in love, get married and buy a new dog.”

Your New Balance



The **Five Part** Story for Longer Stories

Balance

Unbalance

Quest #1

1st attempt

Crisis #1

1st attempt blocked (or only partial victory)

Quest #2

2nd attempt

Crisis #2

2nd attempt blocked (or only partial victory)

Quest #3

3rd attempt

CLIMAX

Third attempt is either utterly blocked or utterly wins

New Balance



Central Character Questions

Who is the Central Character for this story?

What do they want?

What is in the way of what they want?

What happens if they don't get what they want?

What tactics do they try to get what they want?

Do they have a character flaw/character need as well?
(In other words, how does your character need to grow?)

What lesson does the character learn because of the story?

As a result, how is the character now different?



Your Story

Balance

Unbalance

Quest #1

Crisis #1

Quest #2

Crisis #2

Quest #3

*Use as many Quest/Crisis
combos as you would like*

Climax

**New
Balance**