

The Plot Structure of the Zebra Storyteller The plot means the arrangement of the actions in the story. They are organized and connected together by cause and effect. In the first part of our short story which is called the exposition, we are introduced to the setting, the characters and the situation. The story happened in Africa in the past; there was a Siamese cat who spoke inappropriate Zebraic and pretended to be a lion so as to frighten the other Zebras. In every plot, we have a protagonist and an antagonist. The protagonist usually undergoes a certain kind of conflict –external or internal. The Siamese cat is the antagonist whom we of course dislike as it deceived poor innocent zebras for killing them. Being so astonished that the cat could speak Zebraic language , the innocent zebras were fit to be tied. All at once, the Siamese cat tied them up, killed them and dragged the better parts of the carcass back to his den. Now, the writer moves smoothly to another part of the story–the rising action. We learn that the cat hunted zebras in that manner for many months till the zebras asked their delicate noses to investigate the region. When they told them there was no lion in the neighborhood, many zebras avoided going to that region for they thought that the woods were haunted by the ghost of a lion. Now, we come to the third part of the plot–the climax or (the turning point) which is the appearance of the Zebra storyteller. The zebra storyteller is the protagonist of the story who was able to rescue the other zebras by using his wit. One day, while he was ambling alone and thinking of plots for stories to amuse the other zebras, a story exactly similar to the one we are reading, came to his mind and was so interested to tell it to them.

The plot then shifts to another part–the falling action. In the falling action we get to know about the conflict in the story which is an external one. The Zebra storyteller who is the protagonist of the story underwent an external conflict with the Siamese cat "the antagonist". After the storyteller had decided to tell the zebras the story he had in mind to make them laugh, the Siamese cat appeared before him suddenly and greeted him by Zebraic language. Because he had been thinking of that very thing, he wasn't fit to be tied at hearing a cat speaking his language. He took a good look at the cat , and he sensed something about his looks which he didn't like, so he kicked him with a hoof and killed him all at once. By now, we come to the last part of the plot –resolution. The situation that was in disorder (cat killing zebras) became stable again. Africa became free of cats speaking Zebraic language