



Capítulo 1

Lectura, pp. 54–56

Analyzing the Effectiveness of Complex Elements of Plot

When reading stories, it is important for readers to identify the protagonist or main character of the story. The protagonist usually has a goal in the story, and it is the protagonist’s attempt to reach that goal that moves the plot of the story. The plot can be summed up as all the actions that occur as the protagonist attempts to reach his or her goal. While attempting to reach his or her goal, the protagonist encounters problems or conflicts that must be resolved. The climax of the story is the point when it becomes clear to the reader that the protagonist will or will not reach his or her goal. Good readers can explain how various elements of the plot, such as the protagonist’s goals or conflicts, affect the outcome of the story.

Tip

- 1. One way that you can identify and understand various plot elements is to use a chart. After reviewing the *Lectura, El Iztaccíhuatl y el Popocatepetl* on pages 54–56 in your textbook, fill in the information required in the chart below.

Who is the protagonist?

What is his/her goal?

What conflicts does he/she encounter?

What is the outcome of each conflict?

When is the climax of the story?

Sample question:

- 2. How would the outcome of the story have been different if the father of the Chichimeca prince would have agreed to the prince’s marrying the Toltec princess?
A The princess would have died on top of Iztaccíhuatl mountain, but the prince would have survived on Popocatepetl mountain.
B The spirits of the prince and the princess would never have become one.
C The prince and the princess would likely have married and lived in the Chichimeca kingdom in the mountains.
D Both the prince and the princess would have died on the same mountain, Iztaccíhuatl.