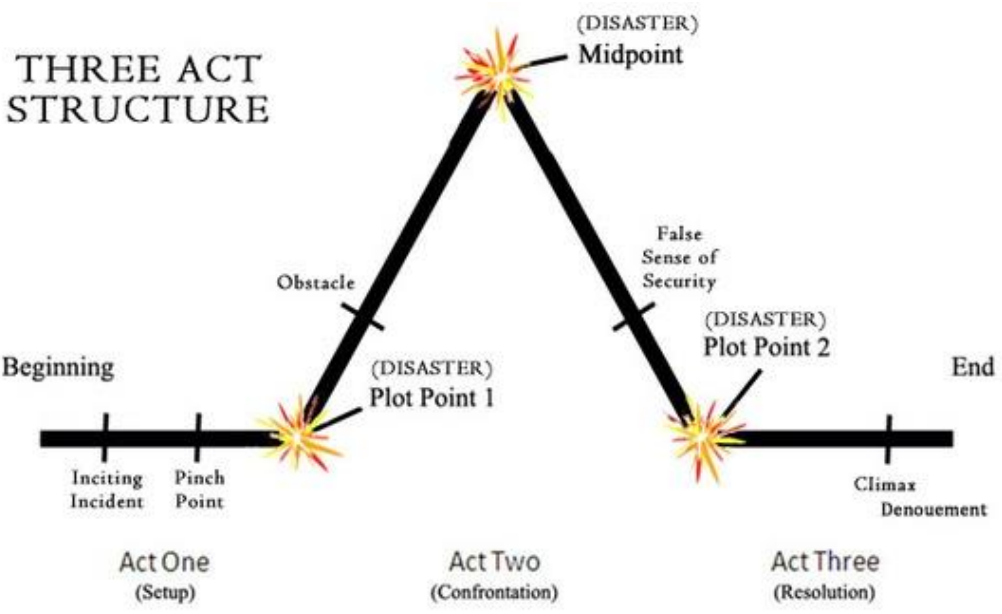


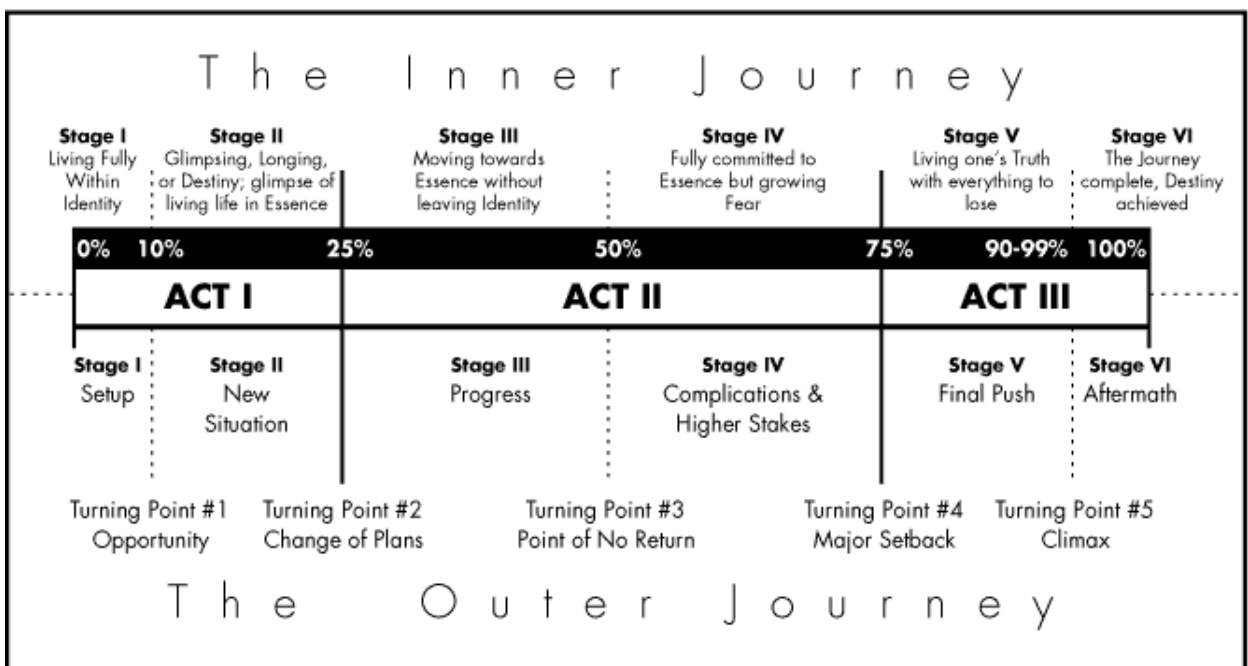
# Story Structure – additional download

All story structures are really about change. And whilst there are a number of structures, they illuminate rather than compete and many feature a 3 act structure.

## Robert McKee "Central Plot"



## Michael Hauge's "Six Stage Plot Structure"



**The Hero's Journey** is a pattern of narrative identified by the American scholar Joseph Campbell that appears in drama, storytelling, myth, religious ritual, and psychological development. Written in the 1940's, Joseph Campbell had travelled the world studying different culture's mythological stories and discovered a common 18-part story structure

Also known as the Mono Myth, the Hero's journey can be shown to underpin many of our cultural touchstone stories (especially movies)

Christopher Vogler, author of *The Writer's Journey*, has worked in Hollywood for many years as a story analyst. When Vogler was at Disney, he began to apply Joseph Campbell's *The Hero's Journey* to his work and he simplified it from 18 stages to 12. (Which are easier to apply to non fiction)

Vogler's 12 stages of *The Hero's Journey* are as follows:

1. The journey begins with the introduction of the Heroes in the Ordinary World, where...
2. ... they are presented with the Call to Adventure.
3. Their initial reluctance may lead to Refusal of the Call, but they...
4. ....receive encouragement from a Mentor to ...
5. ... cross over the Threshold and gain entry into the Special World ...
6. .... There, they encounter Tests, Allies, and Enemies.
7. They Approach the Inmost Cave where ...
8. ... they must endure an Ordeal.
9. The Reward is seized and ...
10. ... they are pursued as they follow The Road Back to the Ordinary World.
11. They are transformed by the experience of a Resurrection and
12. .... return triumphant with the Elixir—an item of great value that will benefit the Ordinary World.

Heroes endure physical activities (outer journey), but also experience internal transformations to their hearts and minds at each stage. Then, the outermost ring uses *Star Wars: Episode IV* as an example, showing the outer journey in gray text and the inner journey in green.

An important insight emerges when *The Hero's Journey* is represented in a circle: it creates a clear division between the ordinary world and the special world (signified by the gray dotted line). There is a moment in every story where the character overcomes reluctance to change, leaves the ordinary world, and crosses the threshold into an adventure in a special world.

In the special world, the hero gains skills and insights—and then brings them back to the ordinary world as the story resolves.

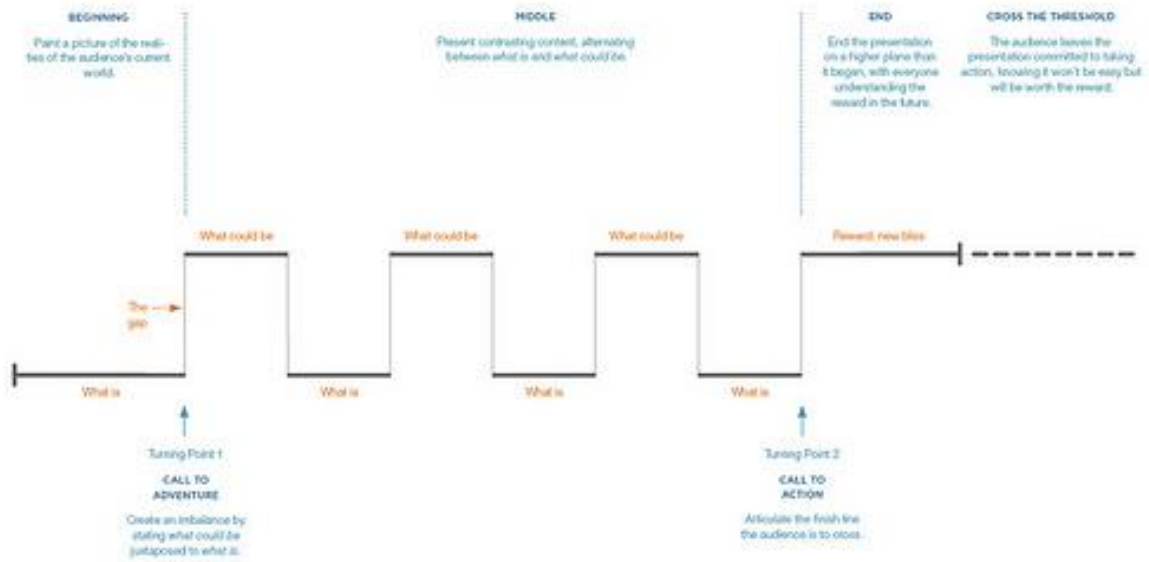
Joseph Campbell traditionally displayed *The Hero's Journey* in a circle. In the chart on the next page, starting at the top of the wheel, move clockwise through each step, with the theory and example of the plot and theme of "*Star Wars*" (the original movie)



# NANCY DUARTE THE SECRET STRUCTURE OF GREAT TALKS

Of all the research for this post, this talk was my favourite. Because I moved away from structure and focussed on skills, I wanted to include it here

<https://www.ted.com/talks/nancy-duarte-the-secret-structure-of-great-talks>



# NANCY DUARTE ON EPIC STORYTELLING FOR LEADERS

<http://www.fastcompany.com/3056841/how-to-be-a-success-at-everything/the-ancient-storytelling-secret-that-every-leader-needs-to>

