Short Story Writing Assignment

Task: Write a short story containing as many literary elements as possible.

Criteria:
- Your story must contain a protagonist and an antagonist;
- The setting must be clear in the first three paragraphs of the story;
- You must include all the elements of plot: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution (you may not end your story on a “cliff-hanger”);
- There must be a mix of direct and indirect characterization;
- Limit the number of characters to five: no more than three round characters and two flat characters;
- Your story should contain at least one example of foreshadowing;
- Your story must contain suspense;
- Your story should have a surprise ending;
- The point of view is optional;
- Your story must contain dialogue;
- Be sure to bring your setting and characters to life by using adjectives.

Length:
- Grade 7: 800 - 1000 words (three to four pages double-spaced)

Possible genres (types of story):
- Adventure/Action
- Comedy
- Romantic
- Thriller

Possible themes:
- Jealousy / Love
- Bullying / School
- Determination
- Insecurities / Self-confidence
- Luck / Superstition
- Greed / Selfishness
- Lying / Deception
- Sports / Competition

Follow these steps – this is called the writing process:
1. Take jot notes – make a plan before beginning your writing
2. Write a rough copy (brouillon) of your story (double-spaced)
3. Edit your rough copy with a friend and by yourself using the dictionary, a thesaurus and online resources
4. Write your final copy (double-spaced)

Assessment & Evaluation:
- You will have to present your story to the class.
- You will receive marks for your cover page, jot notes, rough copy, edited rough copy, and your final copy.
- Mark breakdown:
  - Jot notes (plan): 5% of final grade
  - Rough copy (brouillon): 5% of final grade
  - Edited rough copy (corrections): 5% of final grade
  - Cover page: 5% of final grade
  - Final copy: 80% of final grade
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Setting (Atmosphere):</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
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<td>Place:</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character #1 (Round – Protagonist)</th>
<th>Character #2 (Round – Antagonist)</th>
<th>Character #3 (Round)</th>
<th>Character #4 (Flat)</th>
<th>Character #5 (Flat)</th>
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**Exposition:** Describe how your story begins.

**Rising Action** (Suspense): Describe the little problems that occur before the major problem of your story.

**Climax:** Describe the major problem of your story. This should be the most intense part.

**Falling Action:** Describe what happens after the most intense part of your story.

**Resolution:** How does your story end? Is it a happy or sad ending? Does every problem get resolved?