

Writing Tool:

SAMOSAS Story Structure

WHY

IN THE

WORLD?



SAMOSAS Story Structure



Status Quo

Show character's starting state (content or discontent?)



Alter Status Quo

Change the situation (threat or opportunity?)



Make a Choice

Character responds by making a choice



Obstacles Arise

Obstacles impede progress and have consequences



Set Sights

Character realizes what they want and takes action to make it happen



Adversity Intensifies

Deny the character what they want



Status Resolution

Character overcomes adversity or fails, resulting in a new status quo.



SAMOSAS Story Structure

Character 1

Character 2

ACT I

Status Quo

Status Quo

Status Quo

Alter Status Quo



Alter Status Quo

Make a Choice

ACT II

Make a Choice



Obstacles Arise

Alter Status Quo

Make a Choice

Obstacles Arise

Set Sights

Adversity Intensifies

Obstacles Arise

ACT III

Set Sights



Status Resolution



Adversity Intensifies

Set Sights



Status Resolution

Adversity Intensifies

Status Resolution

When SAMOSAS elements from different character arcs align, they can stack and create powerful and memorable moments in the story