Divide students into groups and have them identify the plot stages of a familiar short story. Discuss their responses as a class.

Screen 9: Trace the Conflict
After students read each part, invite them to discuss the questions on the whiteboard. Make sure students cite specific details from the story to support their answers.

Sample Answers:

- **Part 1:** Mattie is the main character. From the exposition, readers learn that the city she lives in doesn't suit her sense of adventure. She wants to go away to school. She has applied to a school in New York without her parents' consent.

- **Part 2:** From the rising action, readers learn that Mattie's parents don't want her to go away to school. Their reaction, and that of her sister Kim, to her acceptance into Columbia adds tension to the situation. At the story's turning point, or climax, Mattie realizes she has been ignorant of the family's financial situation.

- **Part 3:** In the falling action, Mattie apologizes to her parents and learns from her guidance counselor about some ways to address their problem. The conflict is resolved when Mattie earns enough scholarship money to be able to afford the school of her choice.

Screens 10 and 18: Trace the Conflict
Have students identify the events that occur in each stage of the story's plot. Ask for a volunteer to record answers on the whiteboard. Finally, have students compare the completed diagram with the one on the answer screen.

Screen 11: Tips for Analyzing Plot and Conflict