Understanding Narrative Design

*\Idea Cards & Story Structure \*

\*\*Good activity to do before the students begin any reading of a novel, play or short story\*\*

**Materials:**

* Copies of Idea Cards template (cut out)
* Copies of Story Structure template
* List of character names/descriptions

**Activities:**

1. Put students in groups of four.
2. Put a list of character names and a brief description on the overhead.
3. Have groups fill out the information for each character on one idea card.
4. Allow groups time to construct their own story just by using the idea cards and the information on it. **Do not provide any background knowledge of what the story, novel or play is about.**
5. Once groups have come up with a story, give each group a copy of the Story Structure template.
6. Groups must then fill out the Story Structure with the components of their developed story
7. Have groups put their filled-out Story Structure on the overhead and share their story with the rest of the class.