



Capítulo 4A

Lectura, pp. 202–203

### Analyzing the Effectiveness of Complex Elements of Plot

When reading stories, it is important for readers to identify the protagonist, or main character, of the story. The protagonist usually has a goal, and it is the protagonist’s attempt to reach that goal that moves the plot of the story. The plot can be summed up as all the actions that occur as the protagonist attempts to reach his or her goal. While attempting to reach his or her goal, the protagonist encounters problems or conflicts that must be resolved. The climax of the story is the point when it becomes clear that the protagonist will or will not reach his or her goal. Good readers can explain how various elements of the plot, such as the protagonist’s goals or conflicts, affect the outcome of the story.

**Tip**

- 1. One way that readers can identify and understand various plot elements is to use a chart. After reviewing the *Lectura, El grillo y el jaguar* on pages 202 and 203 in your textbook, fill in the information required in the chart below. It is possible that in a simple fable such as “*El grillo y el jaguar*,” the protagonist might encounter only one conflict and the resolution of this one conflict might be the climax of the story. In more complex stories, the protagonist would likely encounter a series of conflicts before the story reaches its climax.

*Who is the protagonist?*

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*What is his/her goal?*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*What conflicts does he/she encounter?*

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*What is the outcome of each conflict?*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*When is the climax of the story?*

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Sample question:**

- 2. What is the best description of the cricket’s conflict?  
A The cricket likes to sing all the time, but the other animals of the jungle don’t like the singing.  
B The cricket would like to beat the jaguar in a race, but the jaguar is much faster than the cricket.  
C The cricket is hungry, but cannot eat unless the jaguar brings him food.  
D The cricket wins the race with the jaguar, but the jaguar refuses to give the cricket a prize.