

## UNIT 1 Defining Moments Fiction Connection

A STEM school

**FROEBEL**  
BILINGUAL SCHOOL

Home of the Space Generation



# THE SNIPER

WITH  
**JIM SOTO**



# SPEAK YOUR MIND

War. Very few things in the world are as dramatic and life altering as wars are. What issues do people struggle with during times of war? List at least three.



- Material needs
  - Loss of life
- Geographical displacements
- Separation from loved ones
- Health & environmental hazards

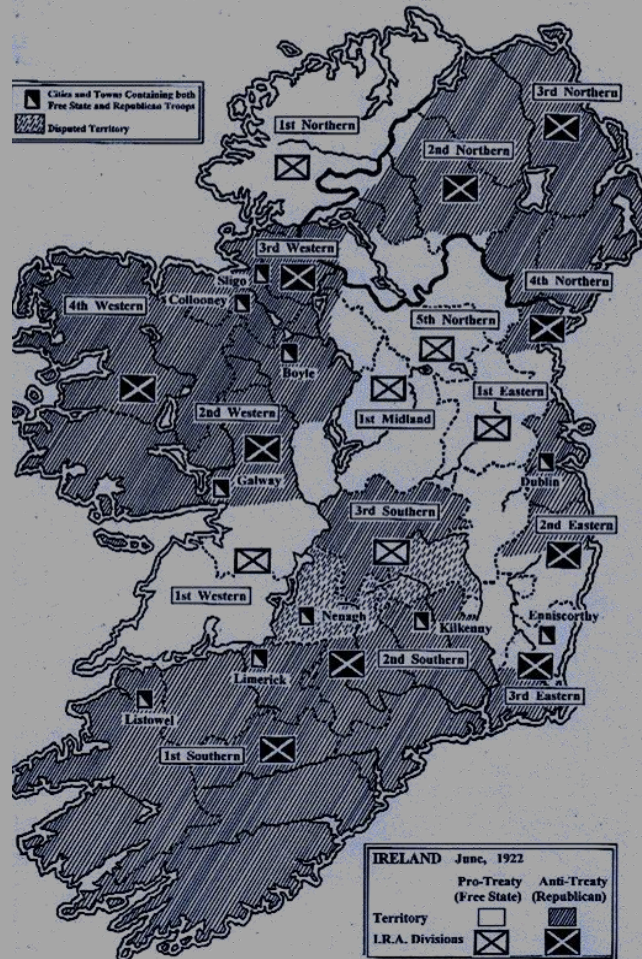
# BACKGROUND

This story about the Irish civil war, was Liam O'Flaherty's first published piece of fiction. It appeared in 1923 in a London publication. The story begins as a lone **Republican sniper** waits atop a rooftop in Dublin, Ireland. It is June of 1922. Nearby **Republican and Free States forces** battle over the **Four Courts** judicial building and throughout the city.



# THE PLAYERS

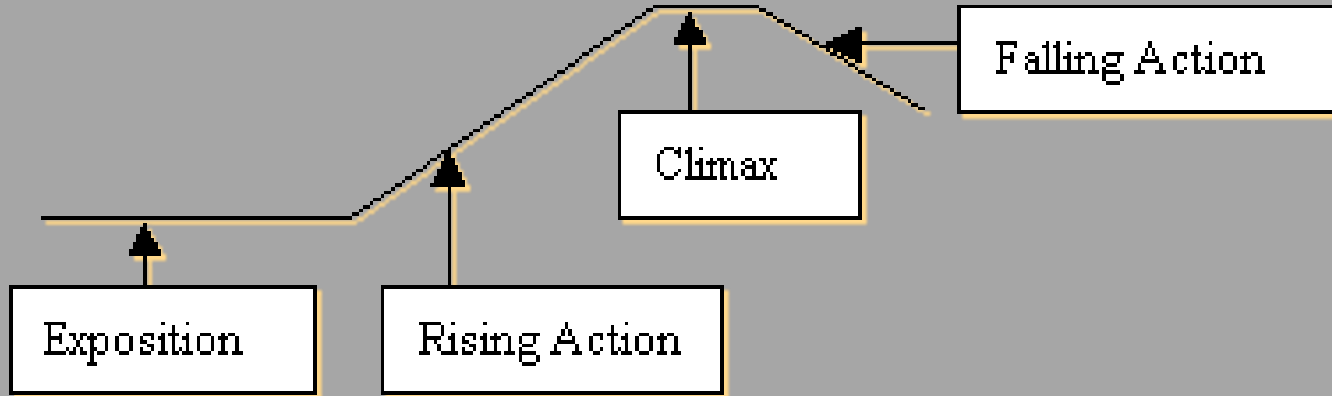
Republicans	Free Staters
<p>Wanted a free Republic/ Total independence from U.K.</p> <p>Were not in power</p>	<p>Wanted to be part of the British Commonwealth but maintain autonomy</p> <p>Were in power</p>
<p>This civil conflict claimed more victims than the Irish Independence War that preceded it a few years earlier.</p>	



# LITERARY CONCEPT

**PLOT** All fiction is based on conflict and this conflict is presented in a structured format called the “plot”.

**Plot** is the sequence of events which involves the characters in conflict. The main parts of a narrative or story can be shown with a plot map that looks like the one below.



# SEQUENCING

## EXERCISE 1

Ask yourself: What is happening in these pictures? IN what order do they make sense?



**In the following scenario, ask yourself:**

## **EXERCISE 2**

➤ What is happening?

➤ In what order do these events or directions make sense? Write them in order in your notebook.

\* It was worth the hard work when she received it back with an A.

\* On Saturday, she organized all of the information she had gathered.

\* On Sunday she wrote her report

\* Nancy did research for a report everyday after school.

# ASSESSMENT 1

After reading the selection, answer the questions below in your notebook.

1. Why did the sniper shoot the unarmed woman? Was he justified? Explain why or why not.
2. What alerts the enemy sniper to the sniper on the rooftop?
3. Describe ALL aspects of the setting for this story. (time period, time of day, country, city, etc.)
4. The author uses a lot of imagery and description here. Write as many descriptive words and phrases below. (Find at least 5)
5. Why must the sniper leave the roof? Why can he not leave yet? Why can he not use his rifle?



6. Describe the shift in the sniper's emotions after he realizes he has killed the enemy sniper.
7. What is ironic in the story (there is more than one obvious answer)?
8. Identify three qualities that made the snipers alike **BESIDES THE FACT THAT THEY ARE BROTHERS!**
  - 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
9. How might the story be different if the story was told from third person omniscient? (The narrator knows/tells all characters thoughts and emotions)

# ASSESSMENT 2

After reading the selection, answer the questions from the PDF handout into your notebook. Label accordingly.

Directions: Please answer with complete sentences (don't forget punctuation). For multiple choice or true-false questions, circle the answers.





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