**What is a Narrative Arc?**

Story-telling or Narrative Elements for HCE Assignment: think about these elements with the [Moth story](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lLNTSjlZ0z8) performance on the Hair Cut by Alfonso Lacayo.

* Establish a setting or a sense of place (at his cousin’s house playing video games, going to the garage with the single light hanging from above, returning home to his mom)
* Have a few characters and/or dialogue in your story (mom, cousin)
* Play with language *(“I’m gonna get you a haircut before you go to* ***school*** *because you* ***look*** *like a* ***fool****…”*
* Establish a conflict or problem (he needed a haircut and didn’t want to pay)
* Builds suspense or tension with descriptive detail (blows on the dust, makes the buzzing noise of the clippers, no mirror to look at himself, haircut takes 30 minutes, people can see themselves in his forehead)
* Have a big ‘reveal’ or climatic moment (his haircut is a disaster)
* Leave your audience with a take-away – however small (patience pays off…)
* See below for a visual of how to build a narrative arc:

