



VIDEO SCRIPT

Video: Megafisherman Plot



(episodic pattern of action and person-against-society conflict)

Scene	Full Transcript
1	Narrator: Don't change that channel! Dante' is hosting <i>Name That Plot</i> , a game show that quizzes contestants on the importance of plot. Plot includes two main components: action and conflict. Before proceeding, view <i>Name That Plot</i> and then get back in the game for this episode of THINKING ALOUD!
2	Introduction
3	Johnny: Now back to Al.
4	Danté: Hello again! I'm your host, Al Author, and this is...
5	Audience: <i>Name that Plot!</i>
6	Danté: That's right and tune in every week, same time, same place, and learn along with our studio audience as contestants share their knowledge of plot! Jennifer, Julia, Dean, are you ready for your next question?
7	Jennifer, Julia, & Dean: Ready!
8	Danté: Audience and contestants, listen for the pattern of action and the type of conflict used in this story. Johnny, we're ready for the reading!
9	Johnny: Well Al, this story comes to us all the way from Cambodia. Here's <i>Megafisherman</i> for 100 points... Arun San pulled in his father's tattered fishing net. "Every day is the same on the Mekong River," he said. "My nets are empty and my belly is, too." Laughter and teasing erupted from the crowd on the shore. "This river is full of fish!" a buyer scoffed. "And you could not catch one?" Arun's face burned. He had borrowed money to buy his boat. If he didn't make the payments, the lender would take his boat away. "How will I ever provide for my mother?" Arun wondered. He tethered his boat and grabbed his camera, his most prized possession. It had been a gift from his father before he died. "I didn't catch fish today, but at least I caught images," Arun said. Before dawn, Arun went to a secluded spot and let down his net. "Maybe I'll have better luck here," he said. While he waited, he snapped photos of the tangerine-colored sunrise and the rolling hills covered in morning mist. After adjusting his net, his boat gave a hard lurch.



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<p>9 (continued)</p>	<p>Johnny: "I've caught something!" Arun exclaimed, pulling up the net. With each tug, the boat rocked and took in water. Sweat poured off Arun's forehead, and his muscles shook. Then, the tension in the net eased. Gliding to the surface of the river was the most massive stingray Arun had ever seen. Arun drew in a sharp breath, and grabbed his camera with one hand.</p> <p>As quickly as he could, he snapped photo after photo. Arun had heard of the mega fish in the Mekong River, but no one he knew had ever seen one.</p> <p>Arun opened the net and set the stingray free. With a few graceful movements, it vanished. Back on shore, Arun ignored the laughter and pointing fingers of the other fishermen. He ignored the threats of the lender. He ignored the growl of his stomach. On his camera, he had proof that he had just caught and released the largest, heaviest stingray in the world. And with the photos, he now had a way he could provide.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Danté: Very touching story, Johnny. So contestants, what do you think? What pattern of action and type of conflict were used in this plot? Dean?</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Buzzer: Beep.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Danté: OK, Dean, that signals it's time for "Audience Participation." During this portion of our show, the audience gets to shout out what they think the correct answer is. Dean, it may help you or it may hurt you. So, audience, what do you think the correct answer is?</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Audience: (Shouts random answers.)</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Dean: Well, come on. You guys are all over the place. Al, they're just confusing me. What? Never mind, I'll just answer it myself. The author used episodic action and person-against-society conflict. See?</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Danté: Bingo! Dean you're moving on to the Bonus Round! For 500 points, how did you determine the correct answer?</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Voice Over Dean: I decided this must be an episodic pattern of action because each event in the story happened independently from the other. On the first day, Arun didn't catch any fish and went home hungry, but he did take photos on his prized camera. On the second day, Arun took more photos. Then he caught and released a stingray, but only after he took a photo of it. He didn't take home any fish and was still hungry. Each day was the same on the Mekong River.</p>



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16 (continued)	<p>Voice Over I'm thinking this is a person-against-society conflict, because Arun wanted to make a living selling his photos and the crowd on the shore expected him to catch fish. The conflict was resolved when Arun took a picture of the largest, heaviest stingray in the world. He knew he had a way to provide for himself and his mother through his photography.</p> <p>Dean:</p>
17	<p>Danté: That makes sense!</p>
18	<p>Dean: You know, Al, I've found that if I think about the pattern of action and the type of conflict, it helps me to make sense of the plot.</p>
19	<p>Danté: Dean, you should be able to relate to this conflict.</p>
20	<p>Voice Over Your struggle to make sense of the audience's mixed-up answers was similar to Arun's person-against-society conflict with the crowd on shore.</p> <p>Danté:</p>
21	<p>Dean: You're right Al, and just as each day is another episode in a day in the life along the Mekong River, we can tune in each week for another episode of <i>Name That Plot</i>.</p>
22	<p>Danté: Jennifer and Julia, you guys had better watch out! This guy's pretty good! The audience is enjoying it! We're having a great time. How do you guys feel about the contest?</p>
23	<p>Johnny: This round addressed episodic action and person-against-society conflict, but be sure to get all the pointers on plot by watching each episode of <i>Name that Plot</i>. Keep plotting and keep Thinking Aloud!</p>