Guy Walks Into A Bar

**Plot**

1. Outline the plot of the story in the grid below and compare it with the typical detective story

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1. stage | 2. stage | 3. stage |
| *Guy walks into a bar* |  |  |  |
| The typical detective story | A murder | An investigation | An outcome (often the criminal’s arrest or death) |

**Characterization**

1. To what extent does Jack Reacher match the criteria for a hardboiled loner mentioned in the introduction? Tick the boxes below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Most likely (based on this story) | Not really | We do not know |
| Works alone |  |  |  |
| Between 35 and 45 years old |  |  |  |
| A tough guy |  |  |  |
| Lives on a diet consists of fried eggs, black coffee and cigarettes  |  |  |  |
| Hangs out a shady all-night bars |  |  |  |
| A heavy drinker  |  |  |  |
| Always carries a gun |  |  |  |
| Shoots criminals and takes a beating if it helps him solve the case |  |  |  |
| Heterosexual  |  |  |  |
| Poor |  |  |  |
| Has an ambition to save America from bad elements all by himself  |  |  |  |

**Suspense**

4. Another tool Lee Child uses to create suspense is his choice of narrator. Determine the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Answer |
| With whom is the point of view placed? |  |
| Does the story have a first person or third person narrator? |  |
| How much does the narrator know about the events of the story (times, people, places, events and characters' thoughts)?  |  |
| Does the narrator participate in the story? |  |
| Is the narrator reliable or unreliable? Does he tell us what he knows as truthfully as he can?  |  |
| Which tense is the story written in?  |  |