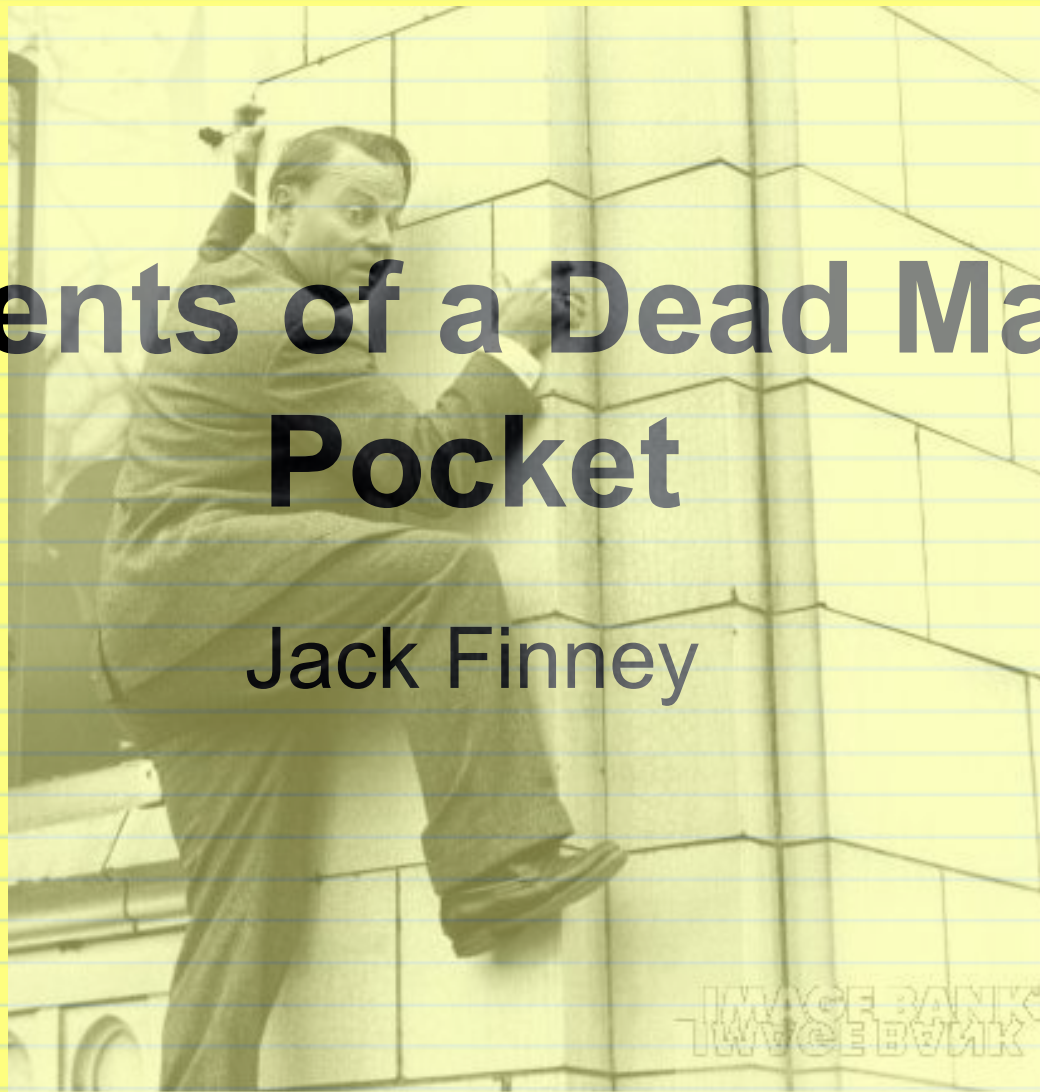


# Contents of a Dead Man's Pocket

Jack Finney



# Goals

- Content Goal- We will work on summary, author's purpose, and evaluating characters' decisions.
- Language Goal- We will discuss issues related to the story with one person speaking at a time and others listening respectfully.



# Pre-Reading Survey



1. Have you ever used a typewriter?
2. Have you ever used carbon paper?
3. What does cc: mean?
4. How many of you have been in a skyscraper?
5. Have you been to a famous one?
6. Are you afraid of heights or get vertigo?

# Contents of the Dead Man's Pocket

- In the selection, Tom Benecke stays home to work on a business proposal while his wife goes to the movies alone.
- When Tom has a harrowing experience on the ledge of his apartment building, he is forced to reexamine his life and reshape his outlook.
- At first, Tom feels safe and secure in his environment and place in life.
- When he is out on the ledge, he realizes how dangerous reality can be and how small he is in the world.

# Pre-teaching Vocabulary



1. **Convolut ed:** adj. twisted in a complicated way. *The convoluted maze confused us.*
2. **Verified:** v. - proved to be true. *He verified the results of the test by double-checking the scores.*
3. **Deftness:** n. – skillfulness. *She climbed with the deftness of a mountain goat.*
4. **Imperceptibly:** adv. – so slowly or slightly as to be barely noticeable. *I did not notice when the fish nibbled imperceptibly at my bait.*
5. **Reveling:** v. – taking great pleasure or delight. *When she got her first job, she could not stop reveling in her newfound independence.*
6. **Interminable:** adj. – endless or seeming endless. *The wait seemed interminable to the impatient shopper.*

# Literary Analysis

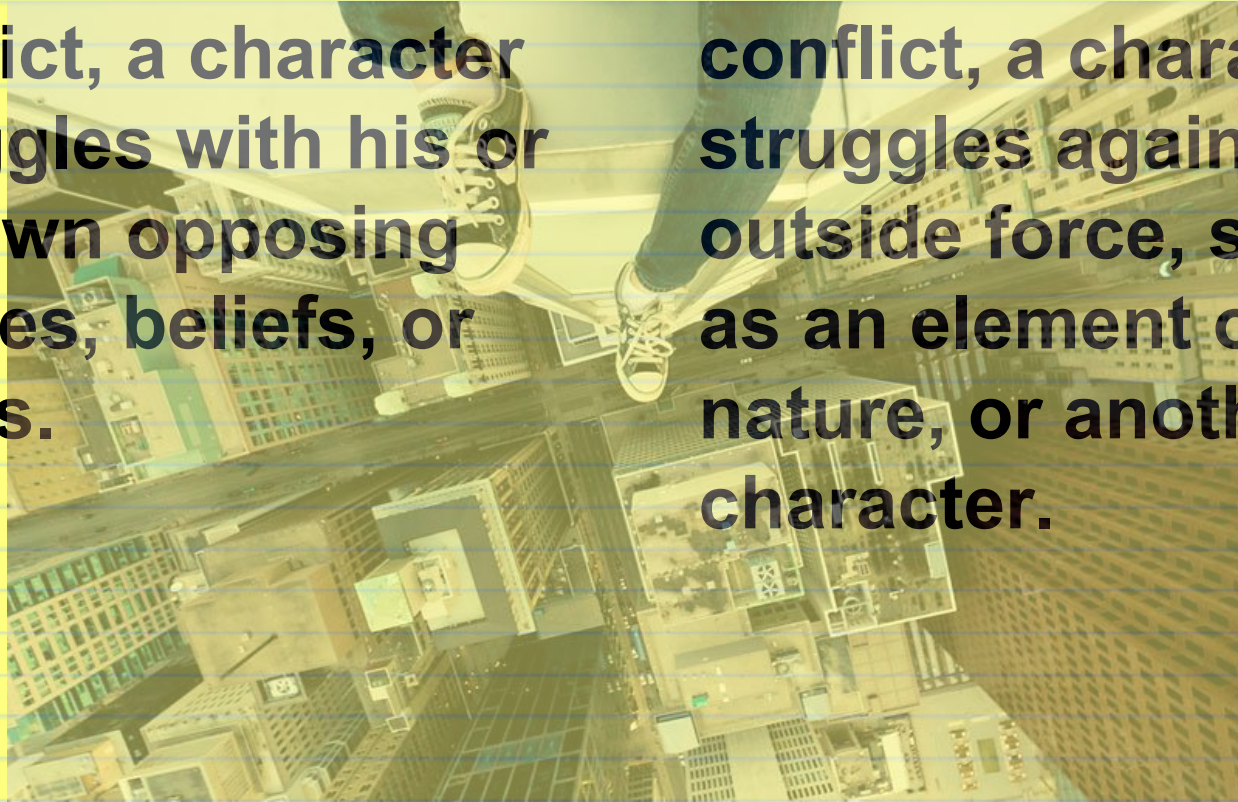
## Conflict and Resoultion

### Internal Conflict

- In an internal conflict, a character struggles with his or her own opposing desires, beliefs, or needs.

### External Conflict

- In an external conflict, a character struggles against an outside force, such as an element of nature, or another character.



Picture the scenes your author describes to get involved in the story and read actively.



**New York City Public  
Library  
Fifth Avenue**



**Empire State Building**

# “Contents of the Dead Man’s Pocket”

<b>Cause</b>	<b>Effect</b>
	<b>Tom opens the window.</b>
	<b>Tom goes out on the ledge.</b>
<b>Tom looks down.</b>	
<b>Tom becomes very afraid.</b>	
	<b>Tom decides to break the window.</b>
	<b>Tom laughs at the end of the story.</b>

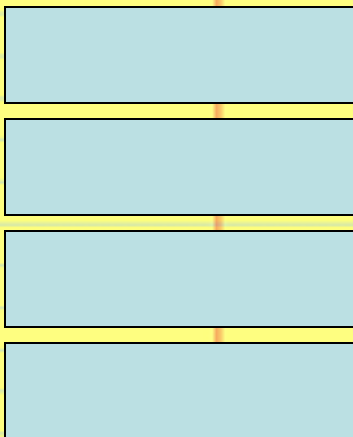


# “Contents of the Dead Man’s Pocket”

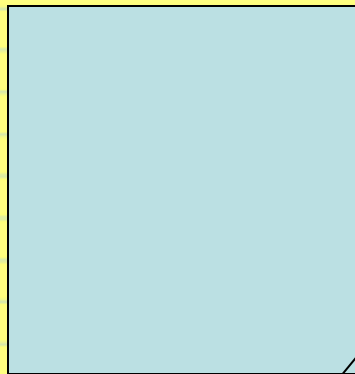
Climax

Complications

Characters



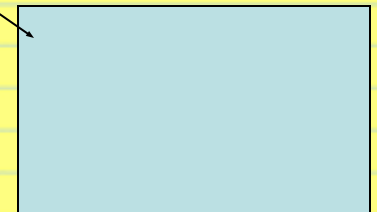
Four empty rectangular boxes stacked vertically, intended for listing the characters in the story.



A large empty rectangular box intended for describing the complications in the story.



A rectangular box intended for describing the climax of the story.



A rectangular box intended for describing the resolution of the story.

Resolution

Complete the short story elements sheet for this piece of literature

Remember the language goal: restate questions in the answer; answer in complete sentences. **Use specific, text-based details in your answer.**

# Summative Assessment

1. Write a summary of the yellow paper's journey during this story. Include **three** main events from the story in your summary.
2. Analyze why Tom opened the apartment window and the consequence of this decision. Include **two** details from the story support the relationship between cause and effect.



# Summative Assessment

3. What is the author's purpose for writing this short story? Provide **two** details from the story to support your answer.
4. What is your opinion of the decisions Tom makes in this story? Provide **two** details from the story to support your answer.



# Post-Reading Mini Journal



What do you think about the story's ending? Did you think it was –

predictable?

disappointing?

abrupt?

heartwarming?

Why? Explain your opinion including details from the story for support.

Elaborate in a journal of five or more descriptive sentences.