

Reading Strategy

ANALYZE PLOT STRUCTURE

To analyze a **plot's structure**, you examine how its content is organized. This story follows a series of **parallel episodes**. This structure emphasizes the main character's patterns of behavior. As you read each new episode, think about what it tells you about Olga's character traits. Compare and contrast the episodes to decide whether or not Olga changes during the story.

Directions: Complete this chart to analyze the structure of "The Darling." Briefly summarize what happens in each of the story episodes. Then tell what each episode reveals about Olga.

Episode	What Happens	Character Traits Shown
Olga's relationship with Kukin (lines 1–106)		
Olga's relationship with Pustovalov (lines 107–195)		
Olga's relationship with Smirnin (lines 166–182, 196–228)		
Olga's life alone (lines 229–268)		
Olga's relationship with Sasha (lines 269–374)		