Conflict in Literature
INTERNAL CONFLICT

Definition:

A struggle that takes place in a character's mind
INTERNAL CONFLICT IS ...

- NOT seen on the outside.
- a character dealing with his or her own mixed feelings or emotions.
Man vs. self is internal conflict.

Man vs. self is internal conflict because the struggle is inside one’s head.
QUIZ TIME

▶ Here’s a short quiz over internal conflict...

Please answer the questions on your own notes.
INTERNAL CONFLICT QUIZ

Internal conflict is NOT:

a. visible
b. difficult
c. serious
INTERNAL CONFLICT QUIZ

Internal conflict is often referred to as:

a. man vs. man
b. man vs. self
c. man vs. external forces
EXTERNAL CONFLICT

Definition:
A struggle between a character and an outside force
EXAMPLE OF EXTERNAL CONFLICT

- Characters may face several types of outside forces.
- Types of external conflict...
  - Man vs. man
  - Man vs. nature
  - Man vs. society
  - Man vs. technology
MAN VS. MAN

- This is mostly seen in the form of two characters against each other.
- It can also be represented by a group of people.
- It does not have to be a physical confrontation; it can be a battle between two ideas.
Man vs. nature involves conflict with an outside, natural force.

Examples of man vs. nature:
- A man’s house being destroyed by a tornado
- A man having to survive while stranded on an island
MAN VS. SOCIETY

- A type of conflict in which a main character thinks differently from society or the accepted way of thinking.
**MAN VS. TECHNOLOGY**

- A type of conflict in which the character is pitted against *man-made* entities or *machines*.

- Examples of man vs. technology:
  - The Terminator
  - The Matrix
QUIZ TIME

Here’s a short quiz over external conflict...
Please answer the questions on your own notes.
EXTERNAL CONFLICT QUIZ

Which is NOT an example of external conflict?

a. other characters
b. forces of nature
c. one’s own decisions
EXTERNAL CONFLICT QUIZ

Which answer choice is NOT a subcategory of external conflict:

a. man vs. man
b. man vs. self
c. man vs. technology