

Exercise walk-through

3.5

The function of conflict in a text

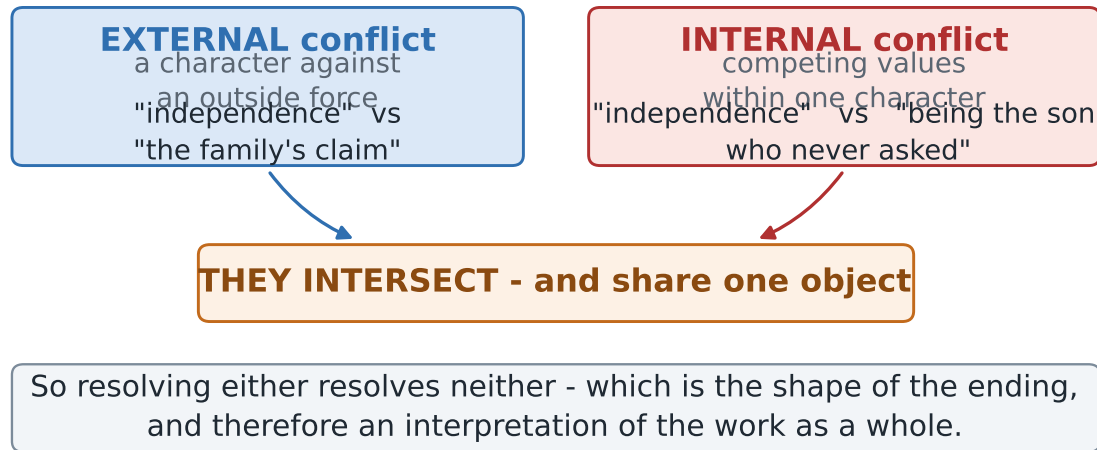
AP English Literature and Composition

Conflict has two locations, and they compound

- **Conflict** is **tension between competing values**, either **within a character** - internal or psychological conflict - or **between a character and an external force**.
- **A text may contain multiple conflicts**, and often two or more **intersect** .
- **A primary conflict can be heightened by additional conflicts that intersect with it.**
- **Inconsistencies in a text may create contrasts** that represent conflicts of values or perspectives.

Conflict has two locations, and they compound, in detail

Conflict is between competing VALUES - name them on both sides



A primary conflict heightened by an intersecting one is the standard shape of a novel or play

The Function of Conflict in a Text

Note the definition: conflict is between **competing values**, not merely between people. Two characters who want the same object are in a dispute; two characters who want *incompatible goods* are in a conflict, and only the second produces meaning.

- **Conflict** is **tension between competing values**, either **within a character** – internal or psychological conflict – or **between a character and an external force**.
- A text may contain **multiple conflicts**, and often two or more **intersect**.
- A primary conflict can be heightened by additional conflicts that intersect with it.
- **Inconsistencies in a text may create contrasts** that represent conflicts of values or perspectives.

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Define conflict and name its two kinds.

[3]

2.2 Explain what a primary conflict gains from an intersecting one.

[2]

Exercises 2.1·2.2

2.1 Define conflict and name its two kinds. [3]

2.1

- tension between competing values; internal or psychological within a character; external, with outside forces that obstruct a character
-

2.2 Explain what a primary conflict gains from an intersecting one. [2]

2.2

- the additional conflict heightens it by raising the cost of resolving the first

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The definition is about values.

(a) State why this matters.

[2]

Exercise 2.3 (a)

2.3 The definition is about values.

(a) State why this matters.

[2]

(a)

- an obstacle alone is not a conflict; the tension must be between things the character values

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The definition is about values.

(b) State what inconsistencies may create.

[1]

Exercise 2.3 (b)

2.3 The definition is about values.

(b) State what inconsistencies may create.

[1]

(b)

- contrasts that represent conflicts of values or perspectives

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Conflict is tension between competing

[1]

☐

A values

B page lengths

C genres

D publishers

3.2 An inconsistency in a text may be

[1]

☐

A always an error

B a clue to a conflict of values

C irrelevant

D a printing fault only

Exercises 3.1-3.2

3.1 Conflict is tension between competing

[1]

☐

- A values
- B page lengths
- C genres
- D publishers

3.1 A

- values

3.2 An inconsistency in a text may be

[1]

☐

- A always an error
- B a clue to a conflict of values
- C irrelevant
- D a printing fault only

3.2 B

- a clue

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A character must choose between loyalty and honesty.

(a) State the kind of conflict.

[1]

Exercise 3.3 (a)

3.3 A character must choose between loyalty and honesty.

(a) State the kind of conflict.

[1]

(a)

- internal or psychological

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A character must choose between loyalty and honesty.

(b) Explain what makes it a conflict rather than a difficulty.

[2]

Exercise 3.3 (b)

3.3 A character must choose between loyalty and honesty.

(b) Explain what makes it a conflict rather than a difficulty.

[2]

(b)

- both loyalty and honesty are values the character holds, so choosing either costs something the character wants to keep