

## 3 Conflict, plot, and significant events – Part 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Vocabulary 词汇

*Write each word three times.* 把每个单词抄写三遍。

| English  | 中文 | Write it 3 times (English) |
|----------|----|----------------------------|
| Conflict | 冲突 | _____                      |

### Recall

- You know a story needs something to go wrong.
- You have read a quiet scene that mattered more than a loud one.
- You know a character can be their own obstacle.

### New ideas

Read these first. Each idea has a short worked example. Then do the Practice below.

#### ■ 1 Conflict is about values

**Conflict** 冲突 is tension between competing values, either within a character or with outside forces. An obstacle alone is not a conflict; the tension must be between things the character values.

*Worked example.* Choosing between loyalty and honesty is a conflict because both are held.

#### ■ 2 Intersecting conflicts

A text may hold several conflicts, and a primary conflict is **heightened** when another intersects it. A second conflict raises the cost of resolving the first.

*Worked example.* A character who must betray a friend to tell the truth now pays twice for the same decision.



An event's significance depends on its relationship to the narrative, to the conflict, and to the development of characters. A quiet conversation may be the most significant scene in a novel.

*Worked example.* The loudest scene changes nothing; the significant one changes what a character will do.

**Watch out:** Significance is relational, not intrinsic. Ask what the event changes, not how dramatic it looks.

## Practice

2.1 Define conflict. [2]

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2.2 Name the two kinds of conflict. [2]

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2.3 Explain why an obstacle alone is not a conflict. [2]

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2.4 State what a primary conflict gains from an intersecting one. [2]

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2.5 Name the three relationships an event's significance depends on. [3]

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