

Name: _____

Short Stories: Conflict Review

Directions: Read the description of the story. Determine the protagonist (central character) and antagonist (opposing force). Then, answer the questions on the conflict.

1. After breaking his mother's favorite vase, Casey struggles to decide whether he should tell his mother the truth and face the consequences, or whether he should attempt to hide his mistake and blame the family dog. When his dog was being reprimanded by his mother, he felt guilty and decided to tell her the truth. Even though Casey was ultimately punished, he felt like he did the right thing.

Protagonist: Casey

Antagonist: Casey

What is the type of conflict? man vs himself

What represents the conflict? Casey vs Casey

Why does the conflict exist? Casey has broken a vase and struggles with whether or not to tell his mother that he did it.

How is the conflict resolved? Casey, feeling guilty, decided to tell his mom the truth, and even though he is punished, he feels better.

2. It's the year 3030 and society is completely dependent on computers and robots. A young boy named Domino is flying his hover board to school when all of the machines start acting up and attacking due to a powerful computer virus. Domino has to think quickly; he remembered what he learned in all of his technology classes and was able to take down the robots one by one by introducing a program to defeat the virus.

Protagonist: Dominic

Antagonist: robots

What is the type of conflict? man vs machine

What represents the conflict? Dominic vs the robots

Why does the conflict exist? After being infected with a virus, the robots start acting up and attack.

How is the conflict resolved? Dominic introduces a program to defeat the virus and take down the robots.

3. Brian has the best dog in the world. In fact, he has one of the only dogs in the world. That's because dogs are not allowed in Brian's world, where people believe that dogs spread diseases. Brian's dog will be imprisoned if he is caught. Soon Brian learns of a mysterious underground dog owners club and joins the fight to legalize dogs. Through working with this club, he is able to free the imprisoned dogs and show the world that dogs are safe, loyal, and loving.

Protagonist: Brian

Antagonist: the government

What is the type of conflict? man vs society

What represents the conflict? Brian vs the government/law against dogs

Why does the conflict exist? The government believes that dogs spread disease, so they ban and imprison them.

How is the conflict resolved? Through working with the underground dog club, Brian frees the dogs and changes society's view of them.

4. Janie is on a whitewater-rafting trip along a choppy river when their guide becomes ill and cannot help the group. Now she and the other passengers must learn to work together to survive the treacherous rapids. As if things weren't bad enough, some of the passengers spot a bear following the terrified rafters along the shore. Working the hardest that she has in her life, Janie rallies the other passengers on the raft; they throw items on the raft at the bear, scaring him, and they successfully navigate the rapids.

Protagonist: Janie **Antagonist:** the rapids/bears

What is the type of conflict? man vs nature

What represents the conflict? Janie vs rapids/bear

Why does the conflict exist? The guide became ill and was not able to do his job.

How is the conflict resolved? Janie rallies the passengers; they throw items at the bear and successfully navigate the rapids.

5. Ronny has won second place in the science fair for the last two years, and Newton Robinson has taken first. Ronny hated how Newton gloated and held these victories high over Ronny's head. This year, Ronny will stop at nothing to beat Newton. He has even enlisted the help of a Nobel Prize nominated scientist who was banished from the scientific community for his rouge experiments. With the scientist's help, Ronny takes first prize at the fair, finally beating Newton.

Protagonist: Ronny

Antagonist: Newton

What is the type of conflict? man vs man

What represents the conflict? Ronny vs Newton

Why does the conflict exist? Newton always wins first prize in the science fair and brags about it.

How is the conflict resolved? Through the help of a Nobel Prize nominated scientist who has gone rogue, Ronny finally wins first prize.