

Literary Terms #3 –Conflict

- I. Conflict – the plot begins with a conflict; a problem, or a struggle between opposing forces
 - A. Initial Conflict (inciting incident) – this is the first problem to begin the story and will develop into a much bigger issue. *The initial conflict usually will appear in the exposition.*
 - B. Internal – a problem which is within the character’s mind; the reader cannot see it. Example: worry over a lost phone
 - C. External – a problem which is an outside or visual force such as another character. Example: lack of water
 - D. Types of Conflict
 - 1. Character vs Character (external)
 - 2. Character vs Him/herself (internal)
 - 3. Character vs Machine/technology (external)
 - 4. Character vs Nature (external)
 - 5. Character vs Supernatural/Fate (both)
 - 6. Character vs Society/group (both)
- II. Major Characters in Conflict
 - A. Protagonist – the main character (Greek – hero) story will focus on his/her development
 - B. Antagonist – the opposing character (villain)