**Identifying Conflict**

**Think it out**

Without conflict in a story, the plot can seem boring. There are two types of conflict: internal and external. Internal conflict is a struggle that a character has within himself. It may be a struggle to choose or to believe or not believe something. External conflict is when a character finds himself in a struggle with another character, society, technology, or nature. We call these conflicts Man v. Self; Man v. Man; Man v. Society; Man v. Machine; and Man v. Nature.

**Directions**: Using the chart below, decide whether the example given is an internal or external conflict. Next, determine what type of conflict it is; then, decide whether the conflict is resolved.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Example** | **Internal or External** | **Type of Conflict** | **Is the conflict resolved?** |
| “Behind me, an old man fell to the ground. Near him was an SS man, putting his revolver back in its holster.” |  |  |  |
| “We’ve got to do something. We can’t let ourselves be killed.” |  |  |  |
| “You must never lose faith, even when the sword hangs over your head.” |  |  |  |
| “Poor devils, you’re going to the crematory.” |  |  |  |
| **Find one of your own!**Page\_\_\_\_ | **EXTERNAL** |  |  |
| **Find one of your own!** Page\_\_\_\_ | **INTERNAL** |  |  |

**Write about it**

In a well-written paragraph, explain how the author uses one of the conflicts in this chart to develop a narrative element.

*A.C.E. format & embed the citation.*