

Prompts for Setting, Plot, and Conflict

You can analyze Person vs. Person conflict and its connection to settings and plot events.

- Who is the antagonist creating the conflict for the protagonist? What does the character do and/or say that develops conflict?
- Does the conflict result in a change of setting?
- How does the protagonist react to the conflict?
- Does the conflict change the plot? Explain why or why not.
- How does the protagonist resolve the conflict?
- Does the conflict change the protagonist's relationship with the character? Explain.
- What images does the author use to describe an important setting? How do these images relate to the conflict that takes place in the setting?

You can analyze Person vs. Society conflict and its connection to settings and plot events.

- Identify the historical period that's the backdrop of your book. Did school, laws, epidemics, customs, traditions, or money issues create conflicts? Choose a conflict that relates to society during the period your book takes place in and describe the conflict, explain why it arose, and explain how it connects to the plot and setting.
- In science fiction authors often warn readers about technology and beliefs in today's world by projecting them far into the future. Explain a warning the author gives and show how it becomes a conflict in the story.

You can analyze Person vs. Nature conflict and its connection to settings and plot events.

- How does nature create conflicts that lead to problems for the protagonist? Choose one conflict and a problem that grows out of the conflict, and explain how the protagonist deals with them.
- Show how a natural disaster affects the lives of the protagonist and other characters.

You can analyze Person vs. Fate conflict and its connection to settings and plot events.

- Are there conflicts beyond the protagonist's control, such as his or her birth family, a physical condition he or she was born with or developed due to a random event, such as an accident? Why does this element create conflict for the protagonist?
- Choose a conflict that is beyond the protagonist's control and explain how the conflict connects to the plot and settings.
- Fated conflicts can affect the protagonist's personality and outlook on life. Choose one such conflict and explain how it affects the personality of the protagonist and two choices he or she makes that enable him or her to cope with the fated problem.

You can analyze Person vs. Himself/Herself conflict and its connection to settings and plot.

- What are significant emotions the protagonist wrestles with as the story unfolds? Why and how do these emotions become antagonists, causing conflict and problems?
- Does an incident or event replay in the protagonist's mind to cause problems for him or her to solve?
- Is making a decision a challenge for the protagonist? When does this challenge arise? How does it cause conflict? Explain a conflict it causes and how the protagonist deals with it.