

Most plots depend on conflict. How a character handles a particular problem will drive the action. Here are some different kinds of conflict:

Individual vs. Individual

This conflict is typically between an individual person and another person. It can also be between groups of people.

Individual vs. Society

This conflict occurs when characters go against a set of rules. It can also occur when characters break "normal" behavior by doing something that might shock or offend polite society.

Individual vs. Technology

This happens when a character is in conflict with a kind of technology that threatens them. Lots of science fiction stories have this kind of conflict.

Individual vs. Nature

This happens when characters are thrown into the wild and must fend for themselves. Will they find food? Shelter? Can they protect themselves against wild animals and other dangers?

Individual vs. Self

This happens when a charcter is in conflict with something about their self. They may be facing a problem like self-esteem or trying to control their temper.



Match the story summaries below with the conflict that you think fits best. (Some may have more than one answer)

1. A young Jewish girl hides from the Nazis in an attic in Denmark.

2. In the future, a family lives in a smart house that does everything for them. It even has a room where anything they imagine will appear. One day the children imagine an African veldt with wild animals that threatens their parents.

3. A man walking on a trail in the Yukon on a very cold day gets very wet. He can't stay warm and tries to build a fire. When the fire goes out he tries to run to keep warm, even running doesn't warm him.

4. A boy who is jealous of the new boy in town also desperately wants his approval. He does something risky in order to impress him.