

# Conflict: "Thank You Ma'am" by Langston Hughes



Directions: Using your notes and our discussions about conflict, complete the following chart. Decide whether the situation given is an internal or external conflict, and mark the column accordingly. Then note what kind of conflict it is (character v. nature, character v. character, etc.). In #6 and #7, create a conflict, one internal and one external. Then identify the type of conflict for your scenarios.

Scenario	Internal	External	Which type?
1. Maria and her brother argue about who gets to sit in the front seat of the car			
2. A farmer and his family must find a way to survive a terrible flood.			
3. Sue is angry with herself for missing an easy question on a test.			
4. The captain of a ship tries to sail through a dangerous storm.			
5. James can't decide what to do tonight. Should he stay home and study or go to a movie?			
6.	X		
7.		X	

Directions: After you read, review "Thank You, Ma'am" and examine conflicts in the story. Record conflicts on the chart below. Then check whether the conflict is Internal or External. Explain what "type" the conflict is. Lastly, determine which conflict is the Central Conflict (main/most important conflict in the story)? Be prepared to explain/defend your answers.

Conflict	Internal	External	Type?
Sample: Roger and Mrs. Jones fight over her purse		X	
Roger doesn't have anyone at home			
Boy is being dragged in a half nelson to her house; wants to be let go			
Mrs. Jones struggled with her own past			
Roger wants blue suede shoes			
Roger can't decide whether to run or stay in Mrs. Jones' place			