Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses
Topic 8 Content: Types of Conflict

Introduction

Characters in literary works will experience conflict. Do you know what types of conflict exist? In this activity, click on each of the tabs to determine how the main character experiences both internal and external conflict.

Internal

An internal conflict is one that takes place in a character's mind. This conflict is not visual; usually, the character is dealing with his or her feelings or emotional turmoil. When an internal conflict is taking place, the character may have to decide between right and wrong. The character may have to make a difficult decision between two choices. Internal conflict is referred to as *Man Versus Self* since the struggles are inside of the character's head.

External

An external conflict is a struggle between a character and an outside force. In a literary work, characters could face several outside forces. The outside forces could be another character, society, or nature. **Man Versus Man** is the type of external conflict that takes place between the main character and one other character. This does not have to be a physical confrontation. This conflict can also be a battle between two ideas. If the main character has a conflict with more than one person, it is termed **Man vs. Society**. **Man Versus Nature** is a conflict in which the character deals with the surrounding environment. What type of external conflict does the image represent? Hopefully, you were thinking **Man Versus Nature**.