

## Resolving conflict

### *Thank You, Ma'am*

*by Langston Hughes*



Read the story by Langston Hughes [HERE](#). You can use the audio version [HERE](#) to support your understanding.

Answer the following questions.

While reading...

**Write the correct LETTER in the box.**

1. At the beginning of the story, a young boy tries to...
  - a. grab some food from a sidewalk vendor
  - b. rob a bank
  - c. steal a pair of sneakers
  - d. steal a woman's purse
2. What does Mrs. Jones do to the boy?
  - a. take him back to her house.
  - b. report him to the police
  - c. call his mother
  - d. tie him up
3. Why does the boy try to steal?
  - a. He wants to buy some candy
  - b. He wants to buy some shoes
  - c. He lost his wallet
  - d. He wants to buy a gift for his mother
4. Why does the woman invite the boy for dinner?
  - a. She feels sorry for him
  - b. He looks hungry
  - c. She senses that he didn't have a supportive, loving family
  - d. She is lonely
5. Why doesn't the boy run when the woman goes behind the screen?
  - a. He has nowhere to go.
  - b. He wants her to trust him.
  - c. He is hungry.
  - d. He is afraid she will chase him.
6. The boy offers to...
  - a. go shopping for the woman
  - b. clean her house
  - c. cook dinner
  - d. wash the dishes

7. The woman tells the boy not to steal because...
- a. he might get caught and sent to jail
  - b. he should feel guilty about taking from others
  - c. buying something with stolen money will "burn his feet"
  - d. she will give him whatever he needs
8. At the end of the story, the boy...
- a. kisses the woman
  - b. promises to write
  - c. says "thank you"
  - d. shows the woman a picture of his cat

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After reading...

*There are three conflicts in this story. Identify the resolution to each conflict. Then, think about the approach the characters took to solve them. Justify your answer.*

1. Man vs Society <i>Roger comes from an underprivileged community and feels that he must resort to crime.</i>	2. Man vs Man <i>This conflict involves Roger and Mrs. Jones when he attempts to steal her purse. Roger fails to steal Mrs. Jones's purse.</i>	3. Man vs Self <i>This conflict occurs when Roger is deciding to flee or stay at Mrs. Jones's home.</i>
Resolution:	Resolution:	Resolution:
Approach:	Approach:	Approach:
Justification:	Justification:	Justification: