

**Thank You, M'am****Literary Analysis SkillBuilder****Conflict**

A plot is usually centered around a **conflict**. Conflict occurs when a character encounters an opposing force. The force can be outside the character—in the form of another character, a physical obstacle, nature, or society. This is called an external conflict. An internal conflict involves a character's struggle within himself or herself. Go through "Thank You, M'am" and record conflicts on the chart below. Then check whether each conflict is Internal or External. One row is done for you.

Conflict	Internal	External
<i>Roger tries to steal Mrs. Jones's purse.</i>		✓
• Mrs. Jones grabs Roger.		
• Mrs. Jones must decide what to do with Roger.		
• Roger needs to decide whether to run from the boarding house.		
• Roger needs to decide whether or not to continue stealing money.		