



When you return to school in the fall, all of your reading logs should be compiled into a three-ring binder. Your logs should be organized in the binder by novel and log number. The logs will be due for grading upon your return, so make sure you start your junior year off right by completing thorough and thoughtful logs. In addition, when you return to school, you will be tested on these novels and your only study tool will be your reading logs. Therefore, it is in your best interest to make your logs as detailed as possible, because they will be a tool for you to use in the future.

The main focus of these logs is the element of literature known as conflict. There is a specific section on your reading log that is dedicated to a discussion about conflicts. Though I'm sure you have discussed conflict in your past courses, as a refresher, you need to know that there are two main categories of conflict: **internal and external**. Internal conflict occurs within a single character; they are fighting with themselves about something. External conflict occurs outside of the character when they fight against an outside force. These two categories can be further broken down through more specific types of conflict. **The seven main types of conflict are as follows:**

1. Person vs. Person
2. Person vs. Self
3. Person vs. Fate/God(s)
4. Person vs. Nature
5. Person vs. Society
6. Person vs. Unknown/Extraterrestrial
7. Person vs. Technology/Machinery

Therefore, when your reading log asks you to "identify three different conflicts happening in this section of the text" you should be identifying those conflicts according to these seven categories. After that identification, you can continue into a discussion of what the conflict is and its impact on the story. In novels, conflicts are the driving force behind plot, they help shape characterization, and they often help teach the reader, characters, or both, a life lesson or theme. For this reason, it's important that your discussion of the conflicts in the novel be the main focus of your log, which means this section should have the most detailed notes.