



The Antagonist

An antagonist is the character or force who works against the main character in a story (called the protagonist). The conflict between the protagonist and the antagonist forms the central conflict of a story.

There are four main types of conflict in literature:

- **Person vs. Person:** In this type of story there is a clear protagonist and a clear antagonist. Stories with a hero and a villain fall into this category.
- **Person vs. Self:** In this type of story, the protagonist is struggling with something within themselves.
- **Person vs. Nature:** In this type of story, the antagonist is nature (i.e., climate change, being lost at sea, etc.)
- **Person vs. Society:** In this type of story, the antagonist is society (i.e., social expectations, totalitarianism, technology, etc.)

DIRECTIONS: Think about the story you have just read.

Name of Story: _____

1. Who or what was the antagonist? _____

2. What kind of conflict is this?

person vs. person

person vs. self

person vs. nature

person vs. society

3. What was the protagonist's story goal, and how did the antagonist oppose it?
