

## The 5 Elements of Conflict

1. **Man VS Self**: These are internal battles that characters wage within themselves; these are internal issues that affect their actions, motivations and interactions with other characters. The conflict can be a recurring theme throughout the story or at a particular point in time. In *Julius Caesar*, Brutus constantly struggles with his feeling towards his friend Caesar and his country.
  - a. Example:
2. **Man VS Society**: These are conflicts where your characters' firm beliefs are against norms that the entire society as a whole endorses. It could be social evils or discrimination practiced by society as opposed by a minority. *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which we will read later in the year, is an excellent example of this.
  - a. Example:
3. **Man VS Man**: These sorts of conflicts are the most common. Your characters will be opposed by or will oppose the actions, reactions, or motivations of another character or characters. As a writer, you can choose to use this sort of conflict to provide comic relief to your narrative. Remember the example from *Swami and Friends* given in class?
  - a. Example:
4. **Man VS Nature**: Nature serves as the obstacle for characters. You could choose to write a particular scene around a natural calamity, such as a typhoon or tsunami. Remember the examples from *Life of Pi*?
  - a. Example:
5. **Man VS Supernatural**: Supernatural elements are typically those that defy the laws of nature and are beyond scientific understanding. Such a setting adds gravitas and drama to the story. These types of conflict are evident in Disney stories and movies such as *Beauty and the Beast* as well as Marvel comics and movies.
  - a. Example: