

Theme, Plot and Conflict

7th Grade

Three words for three different things, constantly confused.

Plot is what happens. Conflict is what drives it. Theme is what it means.

Term	Question it answers	Example
Plot	What happens?	A boy trains and wins a race
Conflict	What is the struggle?	Character vs self — self-doubt
Theme	What does it mean?	Effort matters more than natural talent

The five conflict types: character vs self, vs character, vs nature, vs society, vs technology.