Literary Element (page 13)
Conflict

The Lady, or the Tiger?  FRANK R. STOCKTON

Conflict, or the struggle between two forces, often propels the action of a story. As a reader, you will want to find out how this conflict is resolved.

A conflict can be between two characters, between a character and another force, such as nature, or between two ideas or courses of action in a character’s mind. Some stories have a variety of different conflicts. “The Lady, or the Tiger?” is one of those stories.

In the chart below, identify a conflict for each character. Describe the conflict. Then tell whether it is an external conflict (with someone or something else) or an internal conflict (within the one character).

**ACTIVITY**

**Directions** There are lots of possible conflicts to put on the chart. Write about at least two.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Internal or External?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reading Strategy (page 13)

Summarizing

The Lady, or the Tiger?  FRANK R. STOCKTON

When you summarize, you restate the main ideas of a text. The characters and the setting are main parts of any story, so you should include them in a summary. Beyond that, you can ask yourself: What events or ideas in this story are most important to it? If you had not read the story, what would you need to know in order to get a complete picture?

ACTIVITY

Directions  Read the events or ideas from the story in the first column. Answer the questions in the second and third columns. Use the first row of the chart as a model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event or idea in the story:</th>
<th>Is this important, and why?</th>
<th>Include in a summary?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The king makes people choose between two doors—one with a tiger behind it, and one with a lady behind it—to show their guilt or innocence.</td>
<td>Yes, because this ruling of the king leads to his daughter’s lover having to choose between the two doors.</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The accused people come out of an area underneath the place where the king and his party sit.</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The princess knows who the woman behind the one door is, and she is very jealous of her.</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>4.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Active Reading Graphic Organizer

Use a Three-Column Table Graphic Organizer to keep track of events and ideas in the story. (Ask your teacher for a copy.) Think about whether each idea is important to the story. Do you need to include it in a summary to tell someone briefly what this story is about?
Selection Vocabulary Practice (page 13)

The Lady, or the Tiger?  FRANK R. STOCKTON

Vocabulary

impartial  adj. not favoring one side more than another
emanate  v. to come forth
dire  adj. dreadful; terrible
fervent  adj. having or showing great intensity of feeling;
         passionate
novel  adj. new and unusual

EXERCISE A  Practice with Antonyms

Write the letter of the antonyms, words with nearly the opposite meaning, on the line next to
each vocabulary word. Use a dictionary or thesaurus if necessary.

1. impartial  _________  A. not serious; light
2. fervent  _________  B. biased; unjust
3. dire  _________  C. usual; familiar
4. novel  _________  D. modest; noncommittal

EXERCISE B  Applying Meanings

Write the word from the vocabulary box above that belongs in each sentence.

1. As the fire spread, thick smoke began to _________ from the roof.
2. After the hurricane winds died down, the old barn was in _________ shape.
3. To decide a court case fairly, a judge must be _________.
4. Let’s not do the same old thing today. Let’s do something _________!
5. When I feel strongly about issues, I give them my _________ support.

EXERCISE C  Responding to the Selection

The author, Frank R. Stockton, calls the king and his daughter “semibarbaric.” Explain what that
means, using examples of the characters’ actions to support your explanation. Include THREE
vocabulary words in your writing. Write on the back of this sheet.