

Clashing Forces Answer Key

Sample Responses

1. **Difference:** Hamlet struggles inside himself (internal), while Odysseus struggles against nature (external).
2. **Revealed traits:** Hamlet is thoughtful, hesitant, and morally conflicted. Odysseus is brave, resourceful, and persistent.
3. **Relatable conflict:** (Varies; e.g., "I relate more to Hamlet's because I often face tough choices inside myself.")
4. **How conflicts create tension:** Internal conflicts make readers question what characters will choose; external conflicts provide action and danger. Together, they keep the story engaging.

Teacher Notes

- Point out that both internal and external conflicts drive character development.
- Encourage students to notice **cause and effect**: Hamlet's internal conflict delays his action, while Odysseus's external conflict pushes him into immediate action.
- Differentiation:
 - Provide sentence starters for struggling learners ("Hamlet's conflict is internal because...").
 - Challenge advanced learners to connect these conflicts to a modern story or film.