

Name _____



Bridge Of Fears

Directions: Read the passage carefully. As you read, think about the challenges the main character faces. Some conflicts come from **inside** the character's thoughts, fears, or decisions (internal conflicts). Other conflicts come from **outside** sources such as people, nature, or circumstances (external conflicts). After reading, answer the questions that follow by identifying both internal and external conflicts from the story. Support your answers with text evidence.

The Bridge at Dusk

Daniel stood at the edge of the old wooden bridge, staring at the swirling river below. He had always been afraid of heights, but tonight he needed to cross. His little sister had called him in tears; their dog had run across the bridge into the woods, and she was too scared to follow.

The wind picked up, rattling the loose boards and making the bridge creak. Daniel's stomach twisted as he imagined the planks breaking under his weight. At the same time, he could hear his sister calling for him from the other side, her voice filled with worry.

Taking a deep breath, Daniel stepped onto the first board. His legs trembled, and every step seemed louder than the last. Halfway across, a gust nearly knocked him sideways, and he froze, gripping the ropes. But then he pictured his sister alone in the dark, clutching her flashlight, waiting for him.

With that thought, he pushed forward. Step by shaky step, Daniel made it across. His sister hugged him tightly when he reached the end, whispering, "Thank you." Though his knees still shook, Daniel felt stronger than he ever had before.

1. **Internal Conflict:** What struggle inside Daniel creates tension in the story? Provide evidence.
2. **External Conflict:** What outside force or situation challenges Daniel? Provide evidence.
3. Which conflict do you think was more powerful in shaping the story: internal or external? Why?
4. How did Daniel resolve both conflicts by the end of the story?