

Raymond's Run (page 32)**Literary Analysis SkillBuilder****Conflict**

Most stories are built around a central **conflict**, or struggle between opposing forces. Usually there is one central conflict in a story. Many stories, however, show more than one struggle. Stories can contain two types of conflict:

- **external conflict**—A character struggles against an outside force, such as nature, a physical obstacle, or another character.
- **internal conflict**—The struggle takes place within a character's mind, often as the character must choose between two courses of action.

As you read "Raymond's Run," use the chart below to note external and internal conflicts in the story.

| Plot Event | Conflict |
|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Squeaky is getting ready to walk home with Raymond, and she keeps him in between her and the buildings to prevent him from getting into trouble.</i> | <i>external conflict</i> |
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