

Problem = Conflict + Consequence



Pro writers set the stage for intriguing concept through inherent conflict. A story's main problem is often set up as a powder keg of opposing personalities, intentions, or situations—all waiting for a spark.

1. Consider your current story and make the following lists:

Characters

Settings

Character Wants / Needs

Key Events

2. Which pairings of key elements are most ripe for conflict?

_____ vs. _____

_____ vs. _____

_____ vs. _____

_____ vs. _____

3. What's the worst that could happen?

4. Write out the most important conflict and consequence as a quick pitch.

