

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Started: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### Learning Activity Sheet

### Types of Story Conflicts

**I. Read the story below. Then, accomplish the graphic organizer and table on the next page to briefly explain the elements of the story.**

#### **How Much Land Does a Man Need?**

by Leo Tolstoy

Pakhom, a poor peasant, and his wife was visited by the latter's elder sister. The elder sister always brags about her glamorous life in the city and insults her sister's modest country existence. The younger sister defends her lifestyle, claiming self-sufficiency and simplicity is the road to moral high ground. Pakhom joins in, saying that with enough land he would have nothing to fear—including "the Devil himself." The Devil overhears Pakhom's claim and vows to tempt him with land.

One day, a local lady landowner decides to sell her 30 acres of land to Pakhom. Pakhom buys the land and is happy with the purchase. It would be perfect, he thinks, if not for the constant trespassing of local peasants whom he repeatedly fines and takes to court.

Not contented with what he has, Pakhom travelled to the village south of Volga river. Pakhom and his family were welcomed and allotted a piece of land three times the amount of what they left behind. This only made Pakhom want more.

Just as Pakhom is about to purchase some freehold land from a bankrupt peasant, a passing merchant distracts him with stories of plentiful land in the far-away region of the Bashkirs, saying that after gifting the Bashkirs a few presents, he was able to secure thirteen thousand acres for a mere twenty copecks a piece.

Leaving his family behind, Pakhom travels to the land of the Bashkirs whom he finds friendly yet strange. Pakhom does everything as instructed by the passing merchant, and they eagerly look to repay his kindness. Pakhom requests the opportunity to purchase some of their land. The Bashkir elder soon arrives and agrees to sell Pakhom as much land as he can circumnavigate in one day for the price of a thousand roubles, provided Pakhom returns to his starting point by sunset. Pakhom readily agrees.

In spite of the strange dream, Pakhom brushes it off, and begins his walk. Despite the growing heat of the sun, Pakhom easily covers approximately six miles of land. By midday, he continues though is growing uncomfortable. After having walked ten miles, he realizes he must walk quickly for the sun will soon set. He rushes back and arrives at the starting point just in time but drops dead from exhaustion. His workman uses the spade to dig Pakhom's grave. In the end, man needs only enough land to bury him.

(Adapted from Litcharts.com. "How Much Land Does Man Need?" Accessed from <https://www.litcharts.com/lit/how-much-land-does-a-man-need/summary>)

T H E M E		
Character	Setting	Plot
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Identify the kind of conflict present in the story, *How Much Land Does a Man Need?*, and how it was resolved.

Kinds of Conflict	Conflict	Resolution

II. Enumerate the six types of conflict.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_