**Theme and Conflict (Anne Frank)**

**Section 1**

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| 00:00:00 |  |
| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Remember, you're working to answer today's lesson question, how does The Diary of Anne Frank show its characters' conflicts? Anne wrote her diary, which is the basis for this play, in one of houses on this street. A play is designed to take place on stage, but this play is trying to recreate an actual scene from her real life. |
| 00:00:25 | You've just reviewed Act One of the play and looked at benefits of diary and journal writing, such as how it preserves a story for future generations. Now I'd like you to think about conflict and the kinds of conflict Anne and the others might get into while living quietly under stress and under close quarters. |

**Section 2**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: Remember that conflict is a struggle between |
| 00:00:03 | opposing forces or characters. Conflicts can be between two or more characters or between a character in society or situation. These would be examples of external conflicts, because that happens outside of the character. Another type of conflict is between a character and him or herself. This would be an example of an internal conflict, because the |
| 00:00:27 | problem is happening inside or within the character. Let's look at some examples. A conflict might be two characters that fight over something they both want. However, if you look at the example on the right, you'll see that the characters decide to share the object they both want. This isn't a conflict, because there's no problem or obstacle |
| 00:00:49 | that the characters have to overcome. Conflict is an important part of the plot or what happens in a play. Next, you'll look at different types of conflict. |

**Section 4**

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| 00:00:00 | TEACHER: The central conflict is another way of saying the main problem. It's usually introduced in the beginning of a play, and it drives the main actions in the plot. It shows the motivation of the characters or the characters' reason for doing or saying something. Conflict also has a resolution, or outcome, at the end. |
| 00:00:23 | Conflict is what keeps readers hooked or interested in the plot of a play. They want to see how conflict affects characters and how it's resolved. Let's look at some examples. If a conflict is that two characters are fighting over something that they both want, then a resolution could be that the characters decide to share the object |
| 00:00:45 | that they both want. Remember, there are different kinds of resolutions, and a resolution does not always equal a solution. Sometimes, conflicts end well. But other times, they end badly for characters. How do you think the central conflict of The Diary of Anne Frank will end? |

**Section 6**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: The central conflict in the play The Diary of Anne Frank is between characters and society. The characters are the Frank family, who are living in hiding in an annex in Amsterdam. They are in conflict with the Nazi party. Because the Franks are Jewish, the Nazis dislike them. The Nazis have been trying to gather up all of the Jewish people and send them to concentration camps. |
| 00:00:24 | So the central conflict of the story is the danger and struggle that the Franks go through in trying to avoid being discovered. Now think about some of the minor conflicts that occur in the play. |

**Section 8**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Conflict is a part of all genres of literature and a part of life. The problem in the play, The Diary of Anne Frank, stems from one central conflict, that the characters are stuck hiding from the Nazis in very close quarters. You're working towards answering the lesson question, how does The Diary of Anne Frank show its characters' conflicts? |
| 00:00:24 | You've learned about different types of conflict and the central conflict of the play. Now it's time to look at theme or the message of the play, which is related to the play's conflict. |

**Section 9**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: A theme is one message a text conveys about a topic, and it should be told in one statement. An example of a topic might be bravery. But an example of a theme related to the topic of bravery would be that bravery can come at great personal cost. A theme should be universal. It doesn't mention a specific character or a situation. |
| 00:00:27 | You want it to apply to all people and to life. So let's look at some examples. "Challenging times can bring out the best and worst in people" is a good theme because it applies to everyone. However, "Hiding in the annex was a challenge that brought out the best in Anne" is not a good example of a theme because it's too specific to that one character. |
| 00:00:51 | So let's ensure that you understand what a theme statement should look like. |

**Section 11**

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| 00:00:01 | TEACHER: Now we're going to look at how to find the theme of a play. To find the theme, you want to think about the conflict and how the characters react to the conflict. Keep in mind that conflict and theme are closely connected. An auther will often repeat theme many times throughout the play with similar or repeated actions. So you want to look for those as you're going through. |
| 00:00:26 | You also want to think about the topic being communicated and restate the message about the topic or theme in one single statement. Let's look at an example. The conflict is that the Franks have to hide in an attic because of the Nazi regime. Repeated actions include how in Act one the characters are performing acts of kindness and bravery. |
| 00:00:50 | The topic here is kindness or bravery. So the theme we can pull out of that is that wartime can bring out the best in people. Next, you'll express a theme based on a p |