

**THE CONFLICTS IN RICK RIORDAN'S *THE HEROES  
OF OLYMPUS: THE MARK OF ATHENA***

**THESIS**



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## ABSTRACT

Ratnasari, N.A. (2023). *The Conflicts in Rick Riordan's The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: Dr. Wahju Kusumajanti, M.Hum.

Keywords: Conflicts, Conflict types, Character, Characterization, Solving conflict.

The study is aimed at investigating conflicts in Rick Riordan's Novel entitled 'The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena. There are three problems to be solved in this study, namely: (1) What are the types of conflict that exist in Rick Riordan's *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*; (2) What causes the conflicts in Rick Riordan's *The heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* and (3) How are the conflicts can be solved by the main character in Rick Riordan's *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*

This study uses qualitative approach in relation to the use of clear and systematic description about the conflicts that being studied. Descriptive study in textual analysis was applied in this study to analyze the text of this novel. The data were collected by reading the novel repeatedly and created a data table to describe each sentence. The data table was then analyzed by identifying the conflicts in the appropriate text. The analysis was continued by identifying the conflicts faced by the characters in the novel. Finally, reasons why particular conflicts were identified by looking at the setting of the conversations.

This study reveals that types of conflicts (both internal and external conflicts), why it was happened and how it can be solved are applied in the novel. From the occurrence of all conflict types, each main characters have both internal and external conflicts. The internal conflicts that faced by Annabeth are mostly about confusion to decide between saving her relation with her mother or saving her friends and her boyfriend.



## ABSTRAK

Ratnasari, N.A. (2023). *Konflik dalam The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena karya Rick Riordan*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. pembimbing: Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum.

**Kata Kunci:** konflik, jenis konflik, karakter, karakterisasi, mengatasi konflik.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menyelidiki konflik dalam Novel Rick Riordan yang berjudul *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*. Ada dua masalah yang akan dipecahkan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu: (1) Apa jenis konflik yang ada dalam *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* karya Rick Riordan; (2) Apa yang menyebabkan konflik dalam *The heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* karya Rick Riordan dan (3) Bagaimana konflik dapat diselesaikan oleh tokoh utama dalam *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* karya Rick Riordan.

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dalam kaitannya dengan penggunaan deskripsi yang jelas dan sistematis tentang konflik yang diteliti. Studi deskriptif dalam analisis tekstual diterapkan dalam penelitian ini untuk menganalisis teks novel ini. Data dikumpulkan dengan membaca novel berulang kali dan membuat tabel data untuk menggambarkan setiap kalimat. Tabel data kemudian dianalisis dengan mengidentifikasi konflik dalam teks yang sesuai. Analisis dilanjutkan dengan mengidentifikasi konflik-konflik yang dihadapi para tokoh dalam novel. Terakhir, alasan mengapa konflik tertentu diidentifikasi dengan melihat latar percakapan.

Kajian ini mengungkap jenis-jenis konflik (baik konflik internal maupun eksternal), mengapa hal itu terjadi dan bagaimana penyelesaiannya diterapkan dalam novel. Dari semua jenis konflik yang terjadi, setiap tokoh utama memiliki konflik internal dan eksternal. Konflik internal yang dihadapi Annabeth sebagian besar adalah kebingungan untuk memutuskan antara menyelamatkan hubungannya dengan ibunya atau menyelamatkan teman dan pacarnya.

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

In life, some things usually happen beyond one's control, such as conflict. People can not escape conflict, such as conflict with themselves or with others. Conflict is a process of interaction between two or more parties where these parties try to achieve different and conflicting goals or objectives in an effort to achieve them. According to Fisher, conflict is a relationship between two or more parties (individuals or groups) who have or feel they have which is not the target. Conflict always happens in every kind of life that is hard to prevent. It could be cultural conflict, values conflict, religious conflict, social conflict, and the like (Fisher, 2001, p.4).

Hocker and Wilmot stated that conflict is an expressed struggle between at least two independent parties who perceive incompatible goals, scarce resources, and interference from others in achieving their goals. (Hocker and Wilmot, 2014, p.9). Based on this statement, conflict is something that occurs in human life that involves several individuals and groups. Conflict also usually occurs when there is no agreement between one ego and another or differences in cultural patterns, social status, interests, and events of social change.

Kenney states that the conflicts with which fiction concern itself are of many kinds. A story may deal with a conflict within a single man, a conflict between man and society, man and nature, and so on (Kenney, 1966, p.19).

Referring to what Kenney said about conflict above, it was found that conflict

refers to someone who is faced with a life situation. Only situations offer conflict. The focus of this research is the main character conflict depicted in *Irresistible Forces*.

Conflict is such an important element in learning stories, novels, plays, in movies, as well. In general, conflict is known as a struggle between opposing forces or viewpoints in short stories, novels, plays, and poems. A conflict is a situation in which people or countries are involved in serious disagreement. It is also a situation or period of fighting between two people or groups with opposing ideas, opinions, feelings, and thoughts (Hornby, 2006, p.304).

Conflict is needed in the world of literature as a support for a story, whereas in a story, there is a plot. A plot is a story that contains a sequence of events, but each event is only connected to cause and effect. One event is caused or causes another event to occur. (Stanton, 1965. p.14).

However, plot and conflict have a relationship that supports story content in the world of literature so that literary works are interesting to read. Conflict is also a part of the plot analysis. And by the statements above, the writer concludes that plot and conflict influence each other in forming a literary work which can then increase interest in knowing its contents. There are several reasons why conflict is interesting to analyze in work. The first reason is that conflict is one of the constituent elements of literary works related to characters, plot, and setting, which are an intrinsic part of a literary work. Second, with a conflict in the literary works, there are many lessons that we can take so that we can also learn ways to

solve problems that may come to us one day. And third, the presence of conflict can attract interest in reading a literary work.

Literature works as a result of creative work and is primarily a medium used by human beings. So generally, literary works contain problems related to human life. Thus literary works reflect the social reality of life. According to (Walland Warren, 1978, p.94) Literature is a social institution that employs a social creation as its medium language. They are conventions and norms that could only have developed in society. However, literature represents life, and life is, in large part, a social reality, even though the natural world and the individual's inner subjective world have also been objects of literary imitation. The poet is a member of society, with a certain social status; he receives some social recognition and reward; and he addressed an audience, however hypothetical.

Many literary works that describe social reality are novels. The researcher concludes that among literary works, novels are the most popular literary works because novels are more complete than other works of fiction or social life stories. Fiction has its own world that is the fictional world in which human beings live and various factors cause various problems. Stanton (2007: 90) states that novels are able to describe in detail the development of a character in a complex social situation involving the relationships of many or a few characters and various complex events that occurred many years ago. What is special about fiction is its ability to create a complete and complex universe.

The researcher would analyze the conflicts faced by main characters in *The Mark of Athena*, the third book of *The Heroes of Olympus* series by Rick

Riordan. The researcher would investigate at how the issues in the book might be handled. This book This novel tells the story of seven demigods from the Greeks and Romans who were allied into a team and were destined to carry out a prophecy mission to save Earth and human civilization from the threat of ancient gods who would rise up and take over their power again. The writer of this novel, Rick Riordan, take four of seven characters as the narrators. The conflict began when the conciliation of two clans was underway. the minions of the ancient goddess possessed one of the dmeigods and caused misunderstandings between the two clans. The four main characters experienced both internal and external conflicts through the journey of their mission.

In addition, this novel has been studied by some researchers. Myth in the novel (Azizah, 2015), archetypal analysis on the novel (Fajariyah, 2021), an analysis of theme in the novel (Ridho, 2019), strive for success of four main characters in the novel (Mahfus, 2015). Those four studies used different topics.

The main characters' internal and external conflicts will be the only focus of the researcher. Annabeth, Leo, Piper, and Percy Jackson. Also the way those four main characters solved their problems. Which topic has not been conducted on the previous study. By choosing this topic, the researcher try to show the conflicts, especially in the four main characters' life who have different powers, personality and clan. Therefore, the researcher chose the title *Conflicts faced by The Main Characters in The Main Characters in The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena Novel by Rick Riordan*.



Following the explanation given above, the researcher develops three research questions: (1) What are the types of conflict that exist in Rick Riordan's *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*; (2) What causes the conflicts in Rick Riordan's *The heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* and (3) How are the conflicts can be solved by the main character in Rick Riordan's *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*

## **1.2 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the background of the study above, this study has two goals as the following lines:

1. To describe the types of conflicts in Rick Riordan's novel *The Heroes of Olympus: the mark of Athena*
2. To describe what causes the conflicts in Rick Riordan's novel *The Heroes of Olympus: the mark of Athena*
3. To describe how the conflict in the novel can be solved

The material object is a novel by Rick Riordan entitled *The Mark of Athena*, which is the third sequel of *The Heroes of Olympus* series that was first published in 2012. It tells about seven of both Greek and Romans demigods adventure in a prophecy mission to save Earth and human civilization from the threat of ancient gods who will rise up and take over their power again.

## **1.3 Significance of the Study**

This study is expected to give additional knowledge for people who are interested in learning conflicts on literature. The researcher gave understanding

about the conflicts faced by four main characters, Annabeth, Leo, Piper, and Percy in the novel, and result of the study would give contribution to readers in understanding *The Mark of Athena* the novel by Rick Riordan from how the conflicts happen in four main character's life and how those conflicts can be solved.

#### **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

According to the background of the study above, the scope of this study is analyzing the characters of the novel written by Rick Riordan, *The Mark of Athena*, the third book of *The Heroes of Olympus* series. While the limitation of the study is the kinds of conflict faced by the protagonist characters of the novel those are Annabeth Case, Leo Valdez, Piper Mclean, and Percy Jacson. And the way how the conflict can be solved.

#### **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

1. Conflict is when ideas, interests, or forces conflict. It might result from rivalry for wealth and power, disagreements in views, ideals, or ambitions. Conflict can be internal (inside a person or group) or external (between two or more people or groups). Conflict can be either productive or detrimental.
2. Types of Conflict. There are two types of conflict, those are external conflict and internal conflict. External conflict is one in which a character is at odds with an entity outside of themselves, such as another character, society, or the natural world. It is the main cause of the conflict and tension in a novel, and it usually takes the form of a fight for control, information, or a specific

objective. While Internal conflict refers to a character's internal conflict, which may take the form of a moral dilemma, dread, or other mental antagonism. It is a conflict that arises within a single character between two competing goals, ideas, or beliefs. A character may be caught in a conflict between their conscience and their passions or between various facets of their nature.

3. Character is A person in a literary work; people and animals involved in a story's conflict.
4. Characterization is The techniques a writer employs to develop a character's personality.
5. Solving conflict is the process of finding a cooperative resolution to a dispute between two or more parties. It entails cooperation to find a solution that is acceptable to all parties and compromise to ensure that everyone's requirements are addressed. Communication is necessary to comprehend one another's points of view. Relationships that are healthy, both personally and professionally, must include effective conflict resolution.

## **1.6 Method of The Study**

### **1.6.1 Research Method**

Library research is used by the researcher in this study as the way to uncover answers to the research problems. The researcher collected some references such as books, theses, journals, and articles from websites. This study employs a descriptive qualitative research method as the tool to explain the findings of the analysis in sentences. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative

research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups describe to social or human problem. However, this research data is in the form of words. Descriptive method is used to describe the findings of this research.

### **1.6.2 Data Source**

There are two sources of data in this study. These are primary and secondary sources. The main source of this research was the novel *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* by Rick Riordan. Meanwhile, secondary sources are collected from books, journal articles and previous studies that are relevant to this most recent study.

### **1.6.3 Data Collection**

Below are some steps for researchers to collect data

1. The researcher read the novel *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* in its entirety to deepen her understanding.
2. The researcher created a data table to describe each sentence of the novel to find the significance issues/topics to discuss.
3. The researcher classified the quotations related to the research topic. The topic of study is the conflicts faced by the heroes. Quotes come in the form of sentence phrases and dialogues.
4. The researcher divided the quotations into internal conflicts and external conflicts faced by the protagonists.

5. The researcher collected additional data from books, journal articles and theses to help analyze the research.

#### **1.6.4 Data Analysis**

The researchers used the following procedure to present their analysis.

1. The researcher divided his analysis into two parts. These are the types of conflicts the four main characters face and how they are overcome.
2. Researchers explained the conflicts differently. Conflict is divided into two parts: internal and external. The researchers then describe how the main characters overcame conflicts that helped solve the problem and what they did to clear everything up.
3. The researcher wrote down the analysis results.



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## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Character

A character in a story is a person, animal, being, creature, or thing. Characters are used by writers to perform actions and speak dialogue, thereby moving the story along a plot line. A story can be told with only one character (the protagonist) and still be considered complete. This character's conflict could be internal (within himself/herself) or external (such as climbing a mountain). In most stories, multiple characters interact with one of them serving as the antagonist, causing a conflict for the protagonist.

According to Aminuddin (1995: 79), the way an author describes a character varies. Occasionally, an author describes a character as a person of a certain age who exists only in illusion and has a strong will to survive. Furthermore, an author frequently describes a character who behaves in ways that are almost identical to those of real people. A story usually has several characters, one or more of which is the main character.

There are several types of characters, but the main character is the one who draws the most attention from the audience and becomes the viewer's center of attention. This character has the most scenes as well. The supporting characters create the situation and cause conflict for the main character.

Characters are generally classified into two types: protagonists and antagonists. However, Lutters (2006: 81) divides the character or role into three categories based on its nature:



1. The protagonist is a role that should represent positive things in the story's needs. This role is likely to be the most hurt and suffering, which will elicit sympathy from the audience. The protagonist is usually the central figure, the one who determines the action scenes.
2. The antagonist is the polar opposite of the protagonist. This is a role that should represent the negative aspects of the story. The protagonists in this role are likely to be the most hurt. This figure is a villain who will instill fear in the audience.
3. The role of a tritagonist is that of a companion to either the protagonist or antagonist. This role can be a supporter or antagonist of the central character, but it can also be a central figure who acts as a mediator or intermediary. This position evolved into a defender of the figures they accompany. This includes the primary supporting role.

## **2.2 Characterization**

Characterization is the process of creating and developing a character in a work of fiction. Characterization is the process of describing the physical and mental actions of the characters (Patmarinanta, 2000: 28). Characterization is a literary device used in literature to highlight and explain the details about a character in a story step by step. Characterization, according to Mulyawan (2015: 8), refers to the methods of presenting character. An author should be able to choose not only which characters appear in the story, but also how the characters are presented in the story.

According to Jones (1968: 84), Characterization is the portrayal of distinct images of a person. The writer introduces the character with noticeable emergence, and then following the introduction of the character, the writer frequently talks about his behavior; then as the story progresses, the character's thoughtprocess. The character then expresses his opinions and ideas and engages in conversations with the other characters in the following stage.

The final section depicts how other characters in the story react to the character's personality. Hughes (2011) defines two types of characterization in her article The Different Types of Characterization, those are:

1. Direct characterization occurs when the narrator (rather than another character) directly tells the reader about the character's personality.
2. In contrast, indirect characterization occurs when a narrator does not directly tell the reader the personality of a character, but an audience can guess the character's disposition based on certain criteria by reading between the lines.

### **2.3 New Criticism**

The Mark of Athena, the third book in Rick Riordan's Heroes of Olympus series, contains the four main characters' struggles in relation to the researcher's theory, which is presented in this chapter. New Criticism is the dominant hypothesis used by researchers. This theory has been used by researchers to examine the novel's inherent components and highlight the conflicts that arise throughout the narrative.

New Criticism Theory is a theory that focuses on independent text analysis and ignores differences in social context and non-text content. This theory

emphasizes understanding the text intrinsically and uses a structural approach to review the text as a whole, by analyzing a text based on how its elements interact with one another. The principle of New Criticism evaluates a text based on how its elements interact, not how it is connected to an external context. New critics carefully examine the text and pay attention to the circumstances that give it its particular form and character. The focus of contemporary criticism is on the idea that composition and meaning should be seen as interconnected, nearly biological beings.

New Criticism pays great attention to the formal elements and structures of texts, such as language, imagery, structure, and tone. They argue that a text must be read objectively and that the meaning of a text is found within the text itself, not in the author's intent or in the outside world. New Criticism also emphasized the unity of the text, arguing that all elements of the text must be read in relation to one another. According to Arthur F. Kinney, New Criticism, in its classical form, was the Anglo-American critical movement that dominated literary studies in English departments in the mid-third of the twentieth century, roughly from the late 1920s to the early 1960s. (Kinney , 1996, p.ix). In other words, New Criticism is a method of literary analysis that focuses on the text itself, its form, structure, language, and imagery, rather than the author's intent or external factors such as historical context. It was widely accepted by literary scholars as the principal method of literary interpretation during this period.

New Criticism emphasizes careful reading, or analysis of texts paying attention to details such as imagery, syntax, and diction. According to Wimsatt

and Beardsley, We do not deny that a work of art may have structure and meaning, but we deny that they can be determined by the intent of the maker. (Wimsatt & Beardsley, 1948, p. 5) In other words, the reader must be willing to look at the text closely and draw conclusions about the author's intent without relying on the author's own comments or intentions.

As Ralph W. Rader stated, that New Criticism emphasizes careful reading, paying close attention to texts in an attempt to understand their form, structure, and diction, usually without regard to the author's intent or to the biographical, historical, and social contexts. (Rader, 1985, p.4). This statement emphasizes the importance of careful reading in New Criticism, as well as the fact that external factors must be ignored. And based on the explanations of Cleanth Brooks and Robert Penn Warren, two of the most influential New Critics, "the structure of a poem or play is a complete entity, an inseparable whole, and the critic must seek to explore this structure as a whole, not just in parts or aspects." (Brooks & Warren, 1960, p. 4). This statement emphasizes the importance of text structure, and the need to analyze it as a whole to understand its meaning. It also highlights the importance of the unity of texts and how this must be taken into account when analyzing them.

The text or story is analyzed using new criticism. It will concentrate on the ways in which textual components might convey the story's meaning. This research applies this theory to illustrate the various types of conflict that the four central characters in Rick Riordan's book *The Mark of Athena* experience.

## 2.4 Conflict

Conflict has many definitions but basically has the same meaning and purpose. Conflict is a universal phenomenon that usually occurs in the world and has many aspects that must affect the environment, for example in terms of human interaction in society. Other opinions on the conflict are as follows:

According to the work of Bercovitch and Jackson (1998, p. 1), conflict is defined as a state of opposition between two or more persons, groups, or forces, producing a struggle or contest between them, usually characterized by a certain degree of hostility, tension, or antagonism. This definition captures the notion of a state of antagonism that is often present in conflicts between individuals, groups, or nations. The concept of hostility is particularly important in this definition, as it serves to highlight the tension and negative feelings that can accompany the struggle between two or more parties. Additionally, this definition implies that the struggle between the two parties may be manifested in various forms, such as physical, verbal, or psychological aggression, or in structural forms of power or control.

Conflict is a condition where there are two or more parties fighting for conflicting rights or interests in a situation that threatens the safety or interests of the disputing parties. Conflicts can be in the form of differences of opinion, differences in goals, or differences in interests between individuals, groups, communities, or between countries.

## **2.4.1 Kinds of Conflict**

The researcher outlined the definition of conflict as well as the relevant variables. The plot is made more interesting by conflicts in a significant way. Conflicts also add tension or ups and downs to the narrative, keeping the reader from getting bored while reading the book. The researcher describes the many sorts of conflicts in this section. Internal conflict and external conflict are the two different types of conflict.

### **2.4.1.1 Internal Conflict**

Internal conflict is defined as a character's struggle with himself. This type of conflict usually involves a decision or moral dilemma that the character must face. Internal conflict has nothing to do with the other characters environment or anything outside of the character's mind and spirit.

The character experiences an internal dilemma. They can be doubting due to internal struggle. Internal conflict is a type of conflict that arises between the character and himself or herself and concerns the character's thoughts (Pambudi, 2019, p.15).

### **2.4.1.2 External Conflict**

External conflict is defined as a conflict between a character and an external force. This force can be another character, nature, society or even technology. External conflict is the struggle between the characters: protagonist and antagonist character to maintain each opinion and also defeat each other. this conflict does not happen to us, but it happen between another people and us that have conflict to us (Perrine, 1959, p.45)



External conflict can be used to create dramatic irony such as a character fighting something the reader already knows but ultimately losing. This type of conflict also allows us to explore topics such as justice, morality, freedom and power. It can also be used to uncover a character's motivations and explore themes.

## 2.5 Review of Related Studies

The researcher provides a number of pertinent prior studies in this section. The same book, *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*, is used in numerous research. However, they employ various ideas and opt for various research subjects.

First, Muhammad Havist Mahfush, wrote a research *Strive for Success of Four Main Characters in Rick Riordan's Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena Novel*. He wrote it in 2015. In this study, he analyzed the exertion and the characteristics of the four characters in achieving their goals. He used the theory of striving for the final goal. This study demonstrates that the strive for success theory dominates the traits of four character analyzed by the authors.

Second, Nur Azizah U, wrote *Myth in The Novel "Mark of Athena" by Rick Riordan*. This study was written in 2015. This study is focussed on the Myth that found in the novel. She explained the kinds of myth in the novel and how the connotation meaning found in the novel using semiological approach.

Third, Lailatul Fajariyah wrote *Archetypal Analysis on Rick Riordan's The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*. She wrote this research in 2021. In this study, she used Archetype theory to analyze how the archetypal characters

reappeared, and how the main characters show the archetypes in *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena* novel by Rick Riordan.

Fourth, Muhammad Ridho wrote *An Analysis of Theme in Rick Riordan's Novel The Mark of Athena*. This study was written in 2019. He analyzed the elements of the theme in the novel, especially the main theme and additional theme using structuralism theory.

Researchers were inspired to conduct this research by previous studies. There are some differences between previous studies and this most recent study. In this study, researchers concentrated solely on the four main characters and examined the conflicts they encountered, both internal and external. Furthermore, the researcher discusses how these conflicts are resolved in the novel. To analyze the novel's intrinsic elements, the researcher employs New Criticism as the primary approach.



UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
S U R A B A Y A

### CHAPTER III

#### THE CONFLICTS IN RICK RIORDAN'S *THE HEROES OF OLYMPUS:* *THE MARK OF ATHENA*

This chapter discusses the conflicts faced by the four main characters in Rick Riordan's third book in the Heroes of Olympus series, *The Heroes of Olympus*. In this novel, the writer focuses on four people as narratives, they are Annabeth, Leo, Percy, and Piper. Annabeth was chosen as the leader on a mission to find and restore the Athena Parthenos, a large statue of the goddess Athena that was stolen from the city of Athena and return the statue to its original place, as well as prevent the destruction of the Greeks and Romans caused by the awakening of the ancient goddess, Gaea. The researcher's goal in this section is to analyze the conflicts that the four main actors face while carrying out the mission. The debate will be split into two parts. First, the researcher discusses the different types of conflict that the four main characters face, namely internal conflict and external conflict. The researcher then discusses how to resolve conflicts. In order for the discussion to be sufficiently understandable, the researcher provides a summary of the journey of the seven demigods in carrying out the forecast mission that is told in the third book of *The Heroes of Olympus* series.

Annabeth Case is the daughter of Athena. She is brilliant and loves architecture. She is chosen by her mother to follow the mark of Athena through Rome to find and retrieve the most famous statue of Greece, the Athena Parthenos. Annabeth has long blonde hair and grey eyes. She is tall and carries a

celestial bronze dagger. She also has a boyfriend, Percy Jackson, from the same half-blood camp as Annabeth. One day, her boyfriend, Percy Jackson, suddenly disappears. He had been kidnapped by Hera, the goddess in Greek mythology, while the Romans called her Juno. Hera sent Jason, a demigod from the Romans to the Greek half-blood camp and Percy sent to the Romans' Jupiter camp. but according to Juno, this is the only way to defeat Gaea and her troops. That's how the Agro II and its passengers came to the Roman camp with a message of peace, as well as to pick up Percy Jackson and fulfill the seven demigods who, according to the forecast, could annihilate giants and prevent the awakening of the mother earth, Gaea, who had been asleep for two millennia.

In the first instance, all went well. Reyna from Jupiter camp greeted Annabeth, Jason, Piper and Leo at Camp Jupiter quite kindly. And finally, Percy can meet Annabeth. Their meeting was very emotionally draining considering they were separated for 8 months, but it can be discussed later. the problem is, when he was about to leave New Rome where Jupiter's camp was located, Leo, who was possessed by the evil spirit Eidolon, fired a missile into the city of New Rome and destroyed the buildings there. The Romans immediately considered it a form of betrayal. They decided on war and intended to destroy the Greek demigods. Left with no choice, Annabeth, Jason, Piper, and Percy had to escape Camp Jupiter. Defnded by two more demigods from the Romans, Hazel and Frank. now the seven foretold gods have gathered and are preparing to carry out their mission.

Meanwhile the seven Demigods in the prophecy boarded the Argo II just for information, the Argo II could move in sea and air. Not finished with Roman pursuit, the seven demigods in Divination who are none other than Annabeth, Percy, Jason, Piper, Leo, Frank, and Hazel must repair the Argo II ship which was badly damaged due to Roman counterattacks. Repairing the Argo II was not as simple as they thought, because in the process they also found clues about their duty to protect the city of Rome from attacks by Gaea's henchmen.

In addition, Anabeth also has a personal mission from her mother, Athena, who has recently lost her memory and is dazed due to her two natures scrambling to exist to find Athena's belongings which were stolen by the Romans when they invaded Greece. Anabeth was provided with a coin which was the sign of Athena which is usually called the Mark of Athena.

In carrying out this prophecy mission, the author finds various kinds of conflicts that *The Seven* face in order to complete their task.

### **3.1 Kinds of conflicts exist in the novel**

The researcher discussed the various types of conflicts encountered by the four main characters in this section. It is classified into two kinds of conflicts. The first is internal conflict. It was a struggle in Annabeth, Leo, Piper, and Percy's minds or hearts. It involves four people debating how they feel about a person, situation, or something. The second type of conflict is external conflict. It's a conflict that faced between four personalities with another characters.

Bellow are the findings and discussion of the conflicts in Rick Riordan's *The Heroes of Olympus: The Mark of Athena*.

### **3.1.1 Internal conflict**

According to Stanley Fish (2013, p.4), internal conflict is a struggle of opposing forces within a single character. This form of conflict is often used to describe a character's struggle between two or more opposing emotions or desires. This internal struggle can be as varied as a character's desire to do good versus their inclination to do evil, their fear of failure versus their hope of success, or any other conflicting desires or emotions that a character experiences. Internal conflict is often used to add complexity and depth to a character and to explore the psychological and emotional aspects of a character's inner life. Internal conflict is often used in literature to create suspense and uncertainty as the audience waits to see how the character will resolve this struggle.

#### **3.1.1.1 Annabeth's internal conflict**

In the very beginning of this novel. Annabeth, when she was about to land at Jupiter's camp or what is commonly called the Roman demigod camp, where Annabeth would pick up her boyfriend, Percy Jackson. Annabeth faced internal conflicts with herself. Where he is not completely sure of her ability to carry out the mission that has been given to her.

Everything seemed to be in order. Even that mysterious chill she'd been feeling since the ship launched had dissipated, at least for now. The warship descended through the clouds, but Annabeth couldn't stop second-guessing herself. What if this was a bad idea? What if the Romans panicked and attacked them on sight? (Riordan,2012,p.1)

The quotation above shows that Annabeth tried to convince herself of the plan she had devised to bring peace between the Greeks and Romans. However, even so he was not entirely sure that his arrival with his team would be truly



accepted by the Romans. She couldn't stop thinking about the bad possibilities that could happen beyond his expectations.

Annabeth tried to hide it, but she still didn't completely trust the guy. He acted too perfect—always following the rules, always doing the honorable thing. He even looked too perfect. In the back of her mind, she had a nagging thought: What if this is a trick and he betrays us? What if we sail into Camp Jupiter, and he says, Hey, Romans! Check out these prisoners and this cool ship I brought you! Annabeth doubted that would happen. Still, she couldn't look at him without getting a bitter taste in her mouth. He'd been part of Hera's forced "exchange program" to introduce the two camps. (Riordan, 2012, p.3)

From the statement, it was known that Annabeth was trying to hide her feelings, she could not fully trust Jason. Annabeth thought that though Jason always followed the rules and did the honorable thing. In her mind, Annabeth had doubts about Jason's every action so far and thought that what appeared to be maybe just a trick and betrayal.

I'm a child of Athena, she told herself. I have to stick to my plan and not get distracted. (Riordan, 2012, p.3)

She tried to convince by reminding herself that she was the daughter of the goddess of wisdom, Athena, who was supposed to act professionally and not be easily distracted by matters of faith.

Annabeth was too stunned to move. She felt that if she got any closer to him, all the molecules in her body might combust. She'd secretly had a crush on him since they were twelve years old. Last summer, she'd fallen for him hard. They'd been a happy couple for four months—and then he'd disappeared. During their separation, something had happened to Annabeth's feelings. They'd grown painfully intense—like she'd been forced to withdraw from a lifesaving medication. Now she wasn't sure which was more excruciating—living with that horrible absence, or being with him again. (Riordan, 2012, p.10)

The statement describes how much Annabeth loves her boyfriend, Percy. How she felt as if her body froze when she met her lover. Even though she missed and was very happy when he saw his lover's face.

Kill the Romans, she heard her mother urging. They can never be your allies. Annabeth wanted to sob. Camp Half-Blood was the only real home she'd ever known, and in a bid for friendship, she had told Reyna exactly where to find it. She couldn't leave it at the mercy of the Romans and travel halfway around the world. But their quest, and everything she'd suffered to get Percy back...if she didn't go to the ancient lands, it would all mean nothing. Besides, the Mark of Athena didn't have to lead to revenge. (Riordan, 2012, p.198)

Annabeth was constantly torn between her love for Percy and her love for her family. He loves both sides of his family and his lover, but he has to choose between them in terms of who takes precedence. This inner conflict often makes Annabeth make difficult decisions and challenges her to choose between carrying out her mother's orders or staying with Percy. moreover, he believed that the Mark of Athena should not lead to revenge.

### **3.1.1.2 Leo's internal conflict**

Leo Valdez is son of Hephaestus. He has the rare ability to summon fire. He has black hair, brown eyes and carries a tool belt from which he can pull any object at all. While carrying out a peace mission between the Greeks and Romans, Leo deliberately fired on the Roman encampment from the ship and destroyed several buildings.

Leo doubted that any of them would be safe, now that he had stirred up a camp of angry Romans on top of the problems they already had with Gaea and the giants, but he kept quiet. (Riordan, 2012, p.45)

Leo regretted for the actions he committed against the Romans. He himself had kindled the fires of anger on the Romans as they too were currently facing tension after being attacked by Gaea's men.

### **3.1.1.3 Piper internal conflict**

Piper Mclean is the daughter of Aphrodite even though she doesn't act like it. Piper is a toomboy with choopy brown hair and kaleidoscopic eyes. She is not girly like most Aphrodite children but she is happy. Pippier carries the ability to charmspeak, a talent possessed by some Aphrodite's children. Charmspeak is using your voice persuasively and it is an uncommon talent. She carries Katroptris, a dagger in which she can see images from the future.

Her secret fear? Maybe she hadn't tried hard enough. Piper had never wanted to make friends with the Romans. She was too worried about losing Jason to his old life. Maybe unconsciously she hadn't put her best effort into the charmspeak.

Now Jason was hurt. The ship had been almost destroyed. And according to her dagger, that crazy teddy-bear-strangling kid, Octavian, was whipping the Romans into a war frenzy. (Riordan, 2012, p.77)

Piper hid her worries. She blamed herself for being the cause of Jason, her lover, who was now lying unconscious in front of her and injured. She felt like she wasn't putting his best effort into using his charmspeak skill. She felt useless and could not do anything for his friends.

### **3.1.1.4 Percy internal conflict**

Percy jacson is the only demigod child of poseidon. He is not as smart as the children of Athena, but he is very good in battle. Percy is tall, has short, dark

brown hair, sea green eyes and carries a pen that changes into a sword. Percy can also control water and breath underwater.

One of the internal conflicts faced by Percy in this novel is when he is sitting together with Annabeth and try to talk about their future life. Percy thought if it was possible for them to live a normal life like a couple and then live as a family in the Camp Half Blood environment as what he saw in the Jupiter Camp. He doubted what had been said.

Percy was afraid he'd said too much. Maybe he'd scared her with his big dreams of the future. She was usually the one with the plans. Percy cursed himself silently.

As long as he'd known Annabeth, he still felt like he understood so little about her. Even after they'd been dating several months, their relationship had always felt new and delicate, like a glass sculpture. He was terrified of doing something wrong and breaking it.

"I'm sorry," he said. "I just...I had to think of that to keep going. To give me hope. Forget I mentioned—" (Riordan, 2012, p.131-132)

Percy had struggled with self-doubt about his ability to understand his girlfriend. Even though he has known each other for a long time and has a relationship, he feels that he doesn't understand much about his girlfriend. In fact, he still feels scared and careful about his actions. He thought that maybe his actions made his girlfriend restless.

In another part, it stated that Percy Jackson had struggles with his destiny.

"You can't fight fate, Annabeth," Percy said, his voice cracking. "Not forever...I mean, if it's meant to be, it's meant to be."  
(Riordan, 2012, p. 153).

In this quote, expressing that Percy had an internal struggle with the idea of destiny. He is questioning whether he can resist the predetermined path that he feels is being thrust upon him, or if he must simply accept his fate. This internal

conflict is a recurring theme throughout the novel and is indicative of Percy's struggles to reconcile his own desires and ambitions with the unavoidable forces of destiny.

"No more running," he said. "No more hiding. I'm done with that. I'm going to face my destiny." (Riordan, 2012, p. 469).

In this quote, Percy is resolving to take control of his life and his destiny, rather than running from it. He has come to the realization that he cannot escape his fate, but he can choose how he faces it. This quote reflects Percy's struggle to confront and accept his destiny, and is indicative of his growth and maturity throughout the novel.

"I'm not afraid of death," Percy said. "I'm afraid of what comes afterward." (The Mark of Athena, 2012, p. 595).

In this quote, Percy is expressing his fear of the unknown. He is uncertain of what awaits him in the afterlife, and is torn between his desire to live and his fear of the unknown. This inner conflict reflects Percy's struggle to come to terms with his mortality and to accept the inevitable.

### **3.1.2 External conflict**

#### **3.1.2.1 The Four vs Romans Demigod**

Peace efforts to reconcile the Greeks and Romans did not go well. under the influence of Gaea's lackey, Leo did what was considered a sign of betrayal and enmity towards the Romans.

"I'll tell you what!" cried a voice from above. Octavian had reached the bottom of the ladder. "The Greeks have fired on us! Your boy Leo has trained his weapons on Rome!"  
Annabeth's chest filled with liquid hydrogen. She felt like she might shatter into a million frozen pieces.

“You’re lying,” she said. “Leo would never—”  
“I was just there!” Octavian shrieked. “I saw it with my own eyes!”  
The Argo II returned fire. Legionnaires in the field scattered as one of their catapults was blasted to splinters. “You see?” Octavian screamed. “Romans, kill the invaders!”  
(Riordan, 2012, p.33)

Based on this statement, after the Greeks and Romans tried to discuss a peace mission, the conflict between the Roman and Greek camps suddenly worsened again. Octavian, who was at Argo II with Leo at that time, said that the Greeks had declared war with the Romans. Octavian saw for himself that Leo had started shooting for no apparent reason and had destroyed several buildings in the Roman encampment.

### **3.1.2.2 Leo vs Mr. Narcissus**

When the Argo II landed in the Great Salt Lake to repair the damaged ship, after a battle with the Romans. Leo and Hazel were about trying to get celestial bronze as one of the tools needed to repair Argo II. At that time, they met Mr. Narcissus. Narcissus is described as a handsome man who was cursed by Nemesis. Because he has a very handsome face, it makes him loved by so many women. However he rejected every woman who loved him and broke their hearts. Therefore, Nemesis, the goddess of vengeance, cursed Narcissus by all his life he would admire his own reflection to death.

“Stop!” Narcissus got to his feet. “This is not right! This person is obviously not awesome, so he must be...” He struggled for the right words. It had probably been a long time since he’d talked about anything other than himself. “He must be tricking us.”  
Apparently Narcissus wasn’t completely stupid. Realization dawned on his face. He turned back to the pond. “The bronze mirror is gone! My reflection! Give me back to me!”



“Team Leo!” one of the nymphs squeaked. But the others returned their attention to Narcissus.

“I’m the beautiful one!” Narcissus insisted. “He’s stolen my mirror, and I’m going to leave unless we get it back!”  
(Riordan, 2012, p.71)

In Leo’s quest for celestial bronze, Leo tries to fool Mr. Narcissus with some tricks in order to distract Narcissus from the celestial bronze. The way he took caused a commotion, especially when Mr. Narcissus realized that his mirror had disappeared. Narcissus was angry and ordered the forest nymphs to chase Leo and Hazel and take back the stolen celestial bronze.

### 3.1.2.3 Piper vs Eidolon

“Eidolon, stop.”

Percy froze.

“Face me,” Piper ordered.

The son of the sea god turned. His eyes were gold instead of green, his face pale and cruel, not at all like Percy’s.

“You have not chosen,” he said. “So this one will die.”

“You’re a spirit from the Underworld,” Piper guessed. “You’re possessing Percy Jackson. Is that it?”

Percy sneered. “I will live again in this body. The Earth Mother has promised. I will go where I please, control whom I wish.” (Riordan, 2012, p.100)

The thing in Percy’s form laughed without humor. “Too late you realize. You can trust no one.”

Jason still wasn’t moving. Piper had no help, no way to protect him.

Behind Percy, something rustled in the wheat. Piper saw the tip of a black wing, and Percy began to turn toward the sound (Riordan, 2012, p.100)

As the Eidolon possessed Percy Jackson and Jason solely to remind Piper that she was the only one who didn’t have a powerful demigod companion.

Without Percy or Jason by her side, Piper is forced to face the perils of the journey alone. It makes her feel isolated and vulnerable, as she cannot rely on



their help to get through difficult situations. Piper must learn to rely on her own strength and abilities to get through the journey, or find other ways to get the protection and support she needs.

#### **3.1.2.4 Percy and Frank vs Phorcys**

Over Percy's head, the glass dome cracked and began to leak. "I'm the son of Poseidon!" Percy tried to keep the fear out of his voice. "You can't imprison me in water. This is where I'm strongest." Phorcys's laugh seemed to come from all around them. "What a coincidence! It's also where I'm strongest. This tank is specially designed to contain demigods. Now, have fun, you two. I'll see you at feeding time!" The glass dome shattered, and the water crashed in. (Riordan, 2012, p.158)

The sentence above explains that Phorcys, the sea monster, had made Percy and Frank his prisoners. The sea monster made them prisoners in his aquarium tube as an additional collection in his tunnel aquarium. The monster said that even if he told all about the ancient goddess, Gaea, they still wouldn't be able to fight her without the help of the gods who were now weakened. Percy and Frank's imprisonment was part of a plan by Gaea and her followers to persuade Percy and Frank to cooperate with the monsters and betray the demigod team.

#### **3.1.2.5 Annabeth vs Athena**

This fight between mother and daughter started when Percy disappeared. Annabeth often visited Percy's mother's house. Then when going to board the train, Annabeth met Athena, her mother.

"Mom..." She tried to make her tone as reasonable as possible. "Percy is missing. I need your help." She had started to explain Hera's plan for bringing the camps together to battle Gaea and the giants, but the goddess stamped her walking stick against the marble floor.

“Never!” she said. “Anyone who helps Rome must perish. If you would join them, you are no child of mine. You have already failed me.”  
(Riordan, 2012, p. 172-173)

Athena, who had ordered her daughter, Annabeth, to follow Mark of Athena and avenge her revenge on the Romans would not tolerate any form of tolerance. Even though Annabeth had made it clear that she needed her help for getting her boyfriend Percy back to Camp Half Blood. But the goddess did not care about it, for Athena, anyone who was on the side of the Romans had to be annihilated.

### **3.1.2.6 Olympian Gods vs People's believe**

While in Charleston, Piper, Annabeth and Hazel meet Aphrodite, Piper's mother. They went to drink and talk.

“Mother!” Piper tossed her scone to the pigeons.

“Yes, sorry,” the goddess said. “To make the story short, I’m here to help you, girls. I doubt you’ll be seeing Hera much. Your little quest has hardly made her welcome in the throne room. And the other gods are rather indisposed, as you know, torn between their Roman and Greek sides. Some more than others.” Aphrodite fixed her gaze on Annabeth.

“I suppose you’ve told your friends about your falling-out with your mother?” (Riordan, 2012, p.185)

In this conversation Aphrodite discussed the condition of the gods of Olympus who were not doing well. some of them even forgot their identity. This problem was the reason why some of the powers that the children of the gods should have didn't work properly. the cause of the loss of the power of the Olympian gods was due to the oscillations of the nature of the gods between Roman and Greek beliefs

### 3.1.2.7 Annabeth vs Reyna

“Our grudge is thousands of years old. How can one person fix it?”  
“The quest has to succeed,” she said. “You can try to stop me, in which case we’ll have to fight to the death. Or you can let me go, and I’ll try to save both our camps. If you must march on Camp Half-Blood, at least try to delay. Slow Octavian down.”  
Reyna’s eyes narrowed. “One daughter of a war goddess to another, I respect your boldness. But if you leave now, you doom your camp to destruction.”  
(Riordan,2012, p.198)

The conflict between Annabeth and Reyna goes deeper than just a disagreement over the demigods' presence in Rome. Annabeth and Reyna's opposing views of what is best for their respective camps form the crux of their argument. Annabeth believes that the demigods should work together in order to defeat the Giants and save Camp Half-Blood. Reyna, on the other hand, believes that the best way to protect Rome is to keep Camp Half-Blood out of it.

### 3.1.2.8 Piper and Jason vs Achelous

The water pulled Jason under again.  
“Let him go!” Piper charged her voice with all the persuasiveness she could muster. “I promise I won’t let Hercules get the horn!”  
Achelous hesitated. He cantered over to her, his head tilting to the left. “I believe you mean that.”  
“I do!” Piper promised. “Hercules is despicable. But, please, first let my friend go.”  
Achelous looked down at her through his bifocals. His expression softened. “I see. You would be my Deianira. You would be my bride to compensate for my loss.”  
(Riordan,2012,p.269)

This sentence describes the fight between Piper and Jason Against Acheolus, the river god. Aceolus wanted to kill Jason by drowning him in a river. Piper begged Achelous, the river god, to let Jason go. He promised not to let Hercules get his horn, and Achelous hesitated before agreeing. He offers what if

Piper will become his bride in place of Deianira, a figure from Greek mythology who was the former bride of Achelous and as a form of compensation for her loss.

“You promised,” Achelous said through gritted teeth. “You promised Hercules wouldn’t get my horn.”

“And he won’t,” Piper said. “But I will.”

She raised her knife and slashed off the God's horn. The Celestial bronze cut through the base like it was wet clay. Achelous bellowed in rage. Before he could recover, Piper stood up on his back. With the horn in one hand and her dagger in the other, she leaped for the shore.

BOOM! Lightning stirred the water into a boiling cauldron, steaming and hissing with electricity. Piper blinked the yellow spots out of her eyes as the God Achelous wailed and dissolved beneath the surface. His horrified expression seemed to be asking: How could you?

(Riordan, 2012, p.270-271)

This line was the part where Achelous had made Piper promise her that Hercules would not get his horns, a promise Piper had now broken. Piper was standing over the God and had used her knife to cut off its horns, which she had then hopped down onto the beach. in the tone of her sentence was one of Achelous disbelief and anger. Achelous couldn't believe that Piper had broken her promise and took her horn. He asked her how she could do such a thing, and her expression was filled with shock at the betrayal. The fight was ended when the Lightning released by Jason and struck Achelous. and then Piper and Jason managed to escape.

### **3.1.2.9 Annabeth vs Arachne**

“You’ve been guarding this statue since the ancient times,” Annabeth guessed. “But it doesn’t belong here. I’m taking it back.”

“Ha,” Arachne said.

Even Annabeth had to admit her threat sounded ridiculous. How could one girl in a Bubble Wrap ankle cast remove this huge statue from its underground chamber?

“I’m afraid you would have to defeat me first, my sweet,” Arachne said.

“And alas, that is impossible.” (Riordan, 2012, p.337)

The obstacles Annabeth faced did not end after she managed to find Athena Parthenos. just as he was thinking of a way to remove the statue of Athena, unexpectedly a monster had been lurking and had been waiting for the arrival of the princess Athena for a long time. the monster would not allow his daughter Athena to take Athena Parthenos away easily. the monster challenges Annabeth to fight him first.

### **3.1.3 The Cause of Conflict**

“By Romans,” Jason finished. “At least, that’s one theory, and it fits the legend I heard at Camp Jupiter. To break the Greeks’ spirit, the Romans carted off the Athena Parthenos when they took over the city of Athens. They hid it in an underground shrine in Rome. The Roman demigods swore it would never see the light of day. They literally stole Athena, so she could no longer be the symbol of Greek military power. She became Minerva, a much tamer goddess.  
(Riordan, 2012, p.244)

In this sentence, Jason is referring to a legend he heard at Camp Jupiter, which states that when the Romans took over the city of Athens, they stole the Athena Parthenos and hid it in an underground shrine in Rome. He is suggesting that the Romans did this in order to break the Greeks' spirit, as the Athena Parthenos was a symbol of Greek military power. By stealing the statue, they could ensure that Athena would no longer be a powerful symbol, and instead, she became the much tamer goddess Minerva.

### **3.2 How is the Conflicts can be Solved**

The conflicts that arise can be faced by the characters with several strategies and help from inside and outside as will be explained by the quote below.

### 3.2.1 Guide found in each challenge

The heroes overcome many obstacles, and in each challenge is a hint of where to go next.

No one spoke. Piper remembered her vision in the knife: the strange man in purple, holding out a goblet and beckoning to her. He'd been standing in front of a sign that read TOPEKA 32.

"Well," she ventured, "how do you guys feel about Kansas?"  
(Riordan, 2012, p.91)

The first clue is found while looking for equipment to repair the ship, and from there, Piper has a vision of a place that will be the next destination.

"You're right." Jason leaned forward. "We should just keep going. Once we're over the Atlantic, we'll be safe—at least from the legion." He sounded so depressed, Piper didn't know whether to feel sorry for him or resentful. "How can you be sure?" she asked. "Why wouldn't they follow us?"

He shook his head. "You heard Reyna talking about the ancient lands. They're much too dangerous. Roman demigods have been forbidden to go there for generations. Even Octavian couldn't get around that rule."  
(Riordan, 2012, p.111-112)

After the incident at TOPEKA, the crew of *Argo II* who felt that they were being followed by a Roman entourage ready to attack them decided to continue their journey to the Atlantic Ocean. because according to the belief of the Romans it was forbidden to go there because it was considered too dangerous.

But Phorcys just grinned and elbowed Frank again. "Ha! Good one, child of Mars. I suppose you're right. No point talking about it. Even if the demigods found that map in Charleston, they'd never make it to Rome alive!"

"Yes, the MAP IN CHARLESTON," Frank said loudly, giving Percy a wideeyed look to make sure he hadn't missed the information. He couldn't have been more obvious if he had held up a large sign that read CLUE!!!!

(Riordan, 2012, p.154)



The statement above explain that from traveling in the Atlantic Ocean, Percy and Frank get a clue to their next destination, which is to go to Charleston in search of a map where the symbol of Athena can be found or something that can bridge the rift between the Romans and the Greeks.

He turned to Annabeth. “Did you find the map you wanted?”  
She nodded, though she looked pale. Leo wondered what she’d seen at Fort Sumter that could have shaken her up so badly.  
“I’ll have to study it,” she said, as if that was the end of the subject.  
“How far are we from those coordinates?” (Riordan, 2012, p.204)

Annabeth managed to get her map and got the coordinates for her next destination. however, even if he manages to get the map, he still needs to study it to be able to read the map properly.

### **3.2.2 Strong solidarity in the team**

While Gaea wanted to pit the two tribes against each other, the seven heroes grew stronger in building unity and trust in one another.

Percy counted on his fingers. One, two, three! Frank turned to human and shoved his shoulder against the glass. The coach did a Chuck Norris roundhouse kick with his hoof. Percy used all his strength to slam the marble into the wall, but he did more than that. He called on the water to obey him, and this time he refused to take no for an answer. He felt all the pent-up pressure inside the tank, and he put it to use. Water liked to be free. Given time, water could overcome any barrier, and it hated to be trapped, just like Percy. He thought about getting back to Annabeth. He thought about destroying this horrible prison for sea creatures. He thought about shoving Phorcys’s microphone down his ugly throat. Fifty thousand gallons of water responded to his anger.(Riordan, 2012, p.161)

The sentence above explains that Mr. Hedge is helping Frank and Percy who are trapped in a tube by Porcy, the sea monster, who is also one of Gaea's



minions. Mr. Hedge helped break the glass jar and free Percy and Frank from there.

### 3.2.3 Grace as a defense mechanism

As children of gods and goddesses, each of the seven heroes is blessed with power. Percy Jackson as the son of Poseidon, the sea god, who is given the power to control water and is armed with a ballpoint pen that can turn into a sword.

“What?” Octavian shouted. He was holding on to one of his guards, who was having trouble keeping them both afloat.  
“Nothing!” Percy shouted back. “Let’s go, guys.”  
Hazel frowned. “We can’t let them drown, can we?”  
“They won’t,” Percy promised. “I’ve got the water circulating around their feet. As soon as we’re out of range, I’ll spit them ashore.”  
(Riordan, 2012, p.190)

The statement above shows Percy Jackson's ability to control water to save his girlfriend and friends from the Romans. Controlling water is Percy Jackson's main ability as the son of the sea god, Poseidon. he can command the water to behave as he wishes.

Leo has the privilege of being able to emit fire from his hands.

Piper as the daughter of Approdite has the power of charm speak. She also could see the future through her small knife which also became her weapon.

Finally, the temptation was too great. She unsheathed Katoptris. It didn't look very special, just a triangular blade with an unadorned hilt, but it had once been owned by Helen of Troy. The dagger's name meant "looking glass."

Piper gazed at the bronze blade. At first, she saw only her reflection. Then light rippled across the metal. She saw a crowd of Roman demigods gathered in the forum. The blond scarecrow-looking kid, Octavian, was speaking to the mob, shaking his fist. Piper couldn't hear him, but the gist was obvious: We need to kill those Greeks! (Riordan, 2012, p.84)

The scene in her blade shifted. There was a rapid series of images she'd seen before, but she still didn't understand them: Jason riding into battle on horseback, his eyes gold instead of blue; a woman in an old-fashioned Southern belle dress, standing in an oceanside park with palm trees; a bull with the face of a bearded man, rising out of a river; and two giants in matching yellow togas, hoisting a rope on a pulley system, lifting a large bronze vase out of a pit.  
(Riordan, 2012, p.85)

Then came the worst vision: she saw herself with Jason and Percy, standing waist-deep in water at the bottom of a dark circular chamber, like a giant well. Ghostly shapes moved through the water as it rose rapidly. Piper clawed at the walls, trying to escape, but there was nowhere to go. The water reached their chests. Jason was pulled under. Percy stumbled and disappeared.(Riordan,2012, p.85)

Meanwhile, Annabeth has traits inherited from her mother, the goddess Athena, who has a leadership, wisdom, and skill in strategizing. Annabeth had also learned to be able to read and understand a person's character.

Annabeth hesitated. Sometimes wisdom came from strange places, even from giant teenaged goldfish. "I guess you're right. That was silly. I learned something too."(Riordan, 2012, p.176)

"You know," Annabeth said, "Leo doesn't intend to be mean. He's just got a big mouth. When people make him nervous, he uses humor as a defense."(Riordan, 2012, p.177)

From the statement above, it can be concluded that besides being smart, Annabeth is also very wise in giving Frank an understanding of Leo's previous treatment of him which seemed to demean him. Annabeth reassured Frank that Leo was just covering up his nervousness with a joke.

Very slowly, using only two fingers, Annabeth drew her dagger. Instead of dropping it, she tossed it as far as she could into the water. Octavian made a squeaking sound. "What was that for? I didn't say toss it! That could've been evidence. Or spoils of war!"

Annabeth tried for a dumb-blond smile, like: Oh, silly me. Nobody who knew her would have been fooled. But Octavian seemed to buy it. He huffed in exasperation. (Riordan, 2012, p.189)

Again Annabeth's intelligence was described by Rick Riordan. by throwing the knife into the water, Annabeth, who thought Percy was in the water, could receive a signal that Annabeth was in a state of urgency and needed help. while those who don't know Annabeth will be confused by her sudden action of throwing weapons into the water.

This advantage is also a means of helping the children of gods and goddesses to overcome every obstacle they face.

And I've given you a letter of introduction to Tiberinus, the God of the Tiber River. Once you reach Rome, your friend the daughter of Athena will need this."

"Annabeth..." Leo said. "Okay, but why?"

Bythos laughed. "She follows the Mark of Athena, doesn't she? Tiberinus can guide her in this quest. He's an ancient, proud god who can be...difficult; but letters of introduction are everything to Roman spirits. This will convince Tiberinus to help her. Hopefully." (Riordan, 2012, p.238)

On the other hand, Chiron's brothers, Aphros and Bythos give a letter of introduction to Tiberius, the God of the river Tiberis so that he can guide Annabeth, daughter of Athena, on her mission to follow the Mark of Athena.

#### **3.2.4 Athena Parthenos**

"A statue," he said. "A statue of Athena. At least...that's my guess." Piper frowned. "You said you didn't know."

"I don't. But the more I think about it...there's only one artifact that could fit the legend." He turned to Annabeth. "I'm sorry. I should have told you everything I've heard, much earlier. But honestly, I was scared. If this legend is true—"

"I know," Annabeth said. "I figured it out, Jason. I don't blame you. But if we manage to save the statue, Greek and Romans together...Don't you see? It could heal the rift." (Riordan, 2012, p.243)

The statue of Athena can also help restore the strength of the Olympian heroes, which had declined after they were separated by war. By creating stability around the world, the statue of Athena will allow heroes to restore their powers and to restore their previous levels of power. The statue of Athena could also help heroes rediscover harmony between the Greeks and Romans.



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## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

According to the study above, it can be seen that Annabeth, Leo, Piper, and Percy as the main characters of *The Mark of Athena* had to face many conflicts in their journey to complete seventh prophecy mission, especially in strengthening the relationship between the seven demigods of the two tribes. Annabeth, as the chosen team leader as well as the only one who has earned the trust to follow Athena's mark, often feels doubts about her ability to carry out important tasks. The root of this problem appeared since the Athena Parthenos disappeared. The loss of the Athena Parthenos is thought to have been stolen by the Romans.

In the novel *The Mark of Athena*, the Romans are alleged to have stolen the statue of Athena from the Athena Parthenos because they realized that the symbolic power of the statue of Athena would enhance their image in the military. At that time, the Athena Parthenos was a symbol of honor and power for Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom and Resurrection. The Athena Parthenos statue was stolen when the Romans wanted to conquer the city of Athens and then hid it.

The main reason for the theft of this statue was to strengthen the image of the Romans as a military force and an invincible force. By owning a statue of Athena, they can show everyone that they are not afraid of losing their culture and power. It also shows that they can conquer all cultures and merge them into one. This is one way for the Romans to show their power. This is where the beginning of the division of the Greeks and Romans began. They have different beliefs in

each God and goddess, which causes an imbalance in the nature of the gods of Olympus. It is believed that the power of the gods comes from the beliefs of their followers. so when humans serve the same God but with different beliefs it will affect the nature of the gods.

Along with the weakening of the power of the gods, Gaea, the ancient God who had been asleep for two centuries began to gain consciousness and mobilize his followers to destroy the gods of Olympus and then return to take over the throne to rule the earth. Therefore the mission of saving the earth from the great destruction that triggers many conflicts. from the data that has been analyzed. researchers found a variety of conflicts, both internal and external conflicts.

It starts with Annabeth's internal conflict, which often questions her ability to lead this mission. On the other hand, he has also been appointed to carry out a special mission to follow Athena's sign to recover the statue and return it to its origin. Annabeth is also confused between two choices, fulfilling Athena's wish, her mother, to destroy the Romans which means she also has to betray her own team. Or keep fighting for peace and complete missions and be assisted by team members who also include several members of the Romans. Annabeth was also afraid of being separated from her boyfriend, Percy Jackson. Whatever happened, Annabeth wanted to be close to her boyfriend.

Internal conflicts are also experienced by Leo. In the novel, it is repeatedly told that Leo likes to blame himself for the feuds experienced by the Greeks and Romans. Even though he knew the truth that the feud that was happening wasn't purely on his conscience. But he endlessly felt guilty when he saw his comrades

get hurt. But Leo also contributed quite a lot in the journey to Ancient Rome. He tried his best to correct the mistakes he had made and did his best to repair Agro II.

Piper's internal conflict is feeling that she is not optimal enough to use her Charm Speak ability. He is also reluctant to share his visions of the future with his team. Piper preferred to keep it in for a while, thinking the sight might only strain the atmosphere. She also harbored a fear of losing her lover, in case he should return to the Roman camp.

Percy Jackson faces a deep internal conflict as he struggles to come to terms with what he has done and what he must do. Percy must decide between honoring his oath to protect the gods and his loyalty to his friends. This inner turmoil is only exacerbated by the fact that the gods of Olympus are at war with each other, and Percy is caught in the middle. Percy wrestles with his conscience and his sense of duty. He is pulled in two directions by his loyalty to both the gods and his friends, knowing that whichever side he chooses could have devastating consequences. On one hand, he is determined to keep his oath to protect the gods and help them win the war. On the other hand, he is desperate to protect his friends, who are also caught in the middle of the conflict. His sense of loyalty and responsibility to both sides creates a deep internal conflict that he must grapple with.

There are several external conflicts faced by the four main characters in the novel. The first was experienced by The Four vs Romans, as we know the main goal of the antagonist in the novel is to cause division in the two tribes. The



second experienced by Leo against Mr. Narcissus while on a mission to retrieve celestial bronze to repair Agro II. the third, the external conflict between Piper vs Eidolon. Piper must confront Eilodon, the spirit that possessed Percy and Jason on Gaea's orders to destroy one of the two demigods. The fourth external conflict is experienced by Percy and Frank against Phorcys, the sea monster who tries to hold Percy and Also Frank and make them prisoners on Gaea's orders. fifth, external conflict faced by Annabeth vs Athena, in this case, Annabeth and her mother were fighting in defending their respective plans. the mother wants her daughter, Annabeth to destroy the Romans and take revenge, while Annabeth wants to maintain peace between the two tribes.

The next external conflict experienced by Annabeth vs Reyna. The Romans who had caught up with Agro II's group to the Atlantic Ocean were ready to fight and ravage the group. In that action, Reyna, as the leader of the Romans, challenged Annabeth to a duel. Meanwhile, Annabeth was trying her best to convince Reyna that the misunderstanding between the two tribes was da Gaea's plan. The last external conflict experienced by Piper and Jason against Aceolus, Piper and Jason went on a mission to retrieve Acheolus' horns as a tool to defeat Hercules who confronted them and did not allow Agro II's party to pass through his territory.

After analyzing the conflict, the researcher found the cause of the conflict. Researchers found that the struggle of the seven demigods was originally due to ideological differences. Ideological differences are the main cause of conflict in The Mark of Athena novel. This is shown by the difference between gods and

myths. Gods have a different ideology from myths. They thought that the gods had the right to rule the human world, while the myths believed that humans should have control over their lives. the second, Religious Dispute. Religious disputes are also a cause of conflict in the novel. The two sides have different views about God, which causes conflict between them. This conflict sets them against each other when they meet. Cultural Differences. Cultural differences are also a cause of conflict in the novel. The gods and myths have different views on how they should behave, which sets them against each other. This was also a source of conflict between them.

In addition, this study also analyzes how conflicts can be resolved in the novel. The researcher found that the conflicts faced by the Olympian heroes can be resolved by finding a middle ground. This can be done by understanding the differences and finding a middle ground that is acceptable to all parties involved. Finally, the main character has to find a way to stop the monsters proposed by Gaia. To do this, they must find a way to end the conflicts between gods and humans, as well as end conflicts between humans around the world. By resolving all these conflicts, the main character can save the world from monster attacks and restore the lost balance.

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