

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

CONFLICT: *The Cricket in Times Square*

On the lines below, describe this story's antagonist in a single (sentence / paragraph). Refer to the events of the story to explain as much as you can about the character's appearance, personality, situation, and motivations.

Sentence:

The story does not have a single antagonist, rather Chester's own natural desire for home and freedom comes in conflict with his desire to be a good friend.

Paragraph:

The main antagonist in the story is Chester himself, or Nature, since his natural instincts as a cricket push him away from Mario and toward the freedom of the countryside. No single character opposes Chester Cricket intentionally. Antagonists can only be identified in particular situations. The couple out picnicking in Connecticut unwittingly cart him to a NY subway station and deprive him of freedom. Mama Bellini, who dislikes insects and threatens repeatedly to turn him out, functions as an antagonist – but of course, she opposes Mario in this connection at least as much as Chester. Mario himself works against Chester when he cages the cricket and causes him to perform publicly. However, when he becomes aware of this, he wishes Chester were free again. Ultimately, Chester's natural desire for freedom becomes the antagonist conflicting with his love for Mario.