Protagonist & Antagonist

Protagonist: The main character of a narrative (story) who enters into conflict (often because of the antagonist). The audience is supposed to identify with the protagonist throughout the narrative.

In "The Open Window", who is the protagonist?

Antagonist: The character, group of characters, or institution (i.e. government, society, family) who oppose the protagonist of a narrative. They are classically seen as the villain in the story, although they do not always have evil intentions. The antagonist may also be a major threat or obstacle for the protagonist to overcome.

In "The Open Window", who is the antagonist?

Conflict

In literature, Conflict is used to create tension and interest in a narrative, adding doubt to the outcome of the story. Conflict is created between the protagonist and antagonist to create suspense, and is not always resolved by the end of the narrative.

There are four main types of conflict:

- Person versus Person
  - Conflict where two or more characters are opposing each other. This is an external conflict and the most common in traditional stories, myths, and fairy tales.
- Person versus Society
  - Conflict between the protagonist and a man-made institution. This is an external conflict where the protagonist has to make a moral decision or is challenged by social rules.
- Person versus Nature
  - Conflict between the protagonist and an animal or force of nature, like a storm. This is an external conflict that is common in adventure stories.
- Person versus Self
  - Conflict between the protagonist and themselves. This is an internal conflict where the protagonist must make a choice about themselves, between logic and emotion, or good and evil.

Check the box above for the conflict found in "The Open Window".
Your Lit Circle Novel

In your novel, who is the protagonist?

In your novel, who is the antagonist?

In your novel, what is the main type of conflict your protagonist is facing?

□ Person versus Person

□ Person versus Society

□ Person versus Nature

□ Person versus Self