Purpose: This problematic situation is designed to help students further their knowledge of the characters in the novel and help them appreciate the features connected with the setting in Spain. This strategy can be used anytime during the study of the novel, but would be most beneficial if it was used towards the end of the book after Brett has left with Pedro.

Context: The students will be in the position of gamblers who are betting on who will be first to make it safely through the running of the bulls in Spain. Due to the dangerous nature of the sport, students will have several options of who they want to bet on and what the outcome will be that they are betting on. Each person/group will have $1,000 to use to place their bets. Students are free to put all their money on one person or to divide it up in different amounts between the people. The students even have the freedom to bet on who will lose or who will get injured or killed in the running of the bulls. Although there is no right or wrong answer to this problematic situation, the activity prompts discussion questions about the characters and their true natures. The entire activity should take about 35 minutes.

Directions:
- Pass out the Problematic Situation Worksheet to the students. Discuss with the students the situation and the consensus rules written on the sheet before allowing them to begin.
- Allow the students a few minutes to place their own bets among the five characters.
- Next, put the students in groups of four and ask them to come to a consensus about how they will be betting.
- After the groups have come to an agreement on how they will bet, have one member from each group present their bet to the class by providing justification for their choice.
- Ask the students to return to their seats if they have moved to work in groups, and have them write for one minute about which bet they liked the most (either their personal bet or the bets with the group).

Use the following questions to stimulate discuss in the classroom:

What do your bets reveal about your personal biases surrounding certain characters?
How have you personal experiences in your life helped shape those biases?
Are there any certain events in the novel that significantly contributed to your opinions about a certain character?
How do you think these biases will affect your reading for the rest of the novel?
How will they affect your feelings about the ending when we get to it?

Assessment: Take note of student participation during the class discussion and group work, and grade based on evidence of thought on the reflection writing assignment.
Betting on the Running of the Bulls

Problematic Situation
The Sun Also Rises
Ernest Hemingway
Scribner: New York, 2006

Your Task:  It's 1920.  You and your friends have traveled to Spain to witness the famous running of the bulls.  The event is exciting, dangerous, and a great way to gamble your way into some extra cash.  You have one thousand dollars and you are ready to spend it on the best bet you can find.  You have a list of the people who will participate in the running of the bulls.  You have to decide who, or what you will bet on.  You can put all your money on one person to win, you can divide the money among various people you think would likely win, or you can decide to bet that someone will get injured or even killed as a result of the race.  The bets are up to you.

The Runners:
Lady Brett Ashley- Active British female.  Heavy drinker.  Very independent but not happy with her life.  Promiscuous behavior and a definite heart-breaker.
Robert Cohn- Jewish.  Champion ex-boxer.  Writer.  Was in the army but never saw battle in WWI.  Rather shy with women but very persistent when he knows what he wants.  Tends to get into fights easily and is often the victim of bullies. In love with Brett Ashley.
Mike Campbell- A bankrupt Scottish war veteran. Heavy drinker and hot tempered.  Sometimes goes through emotions of self-pity because his life isn’t how he wants it to be. In love with Brett Ashley.

Place Your Bets!  First place your bets for yourself.  After you have done so, get into groups of four.  As a group, you must come to a consensus about how you will place your bets.  Each group member can make suggestions but you must come to a decision as a group (you still only have one thousand dollars to spend as a group).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Runner</th>
<th>Your Bet:</th>
<th>Group Consensus:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brett Ashley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Cohn</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike Campbell</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Jake Barnes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pedro Romano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Conditions</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Roberge, BYU, 2010
RULES AND FOLLOW UP

Rules for Coming to a Consensus:

1) Avoid arguing extensively for your own bets. Each group member should present their position as logically as possible, but listen to the other members’ reactions before pressing your point. Each group member should have equal time to present their personal bets to the group.

2) Do not assume that someone must win and someone must lose. Instead, look for an acceptable compromise for all parties.

3) Do not change your mind to simply avoid conflict. Explore the reasons around the consensus to make sure that everyone accepts the solution for similar reasons.

4) Avoid conflict-reducing techniques such as majority vote, averages, coin flips, and bargaining. When a dissenting member finally agrees, don’t feel that he or she must be rewarded by having his or her own way on some later point.

5) Differences of opinion are natural and expected. Seek them out and try to involve everyone in the decision process.

Follow Up: After your group has come to a consensus, each group will assign one member to present their bets to the class. This member must not only present the bets decided upon, but also provide justification for the bets. Try to answer the following questions:

We decided to place our bets this way because . . .
We felt this was the best gamble because . . .

Reflection: Now take one minute and reflect on this problematic situation. What did you like about it? What did you not like? Which bet did you like the best (personal or group)? Why? You can write your response directly on this sheet.