

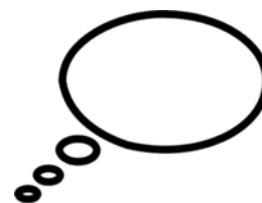
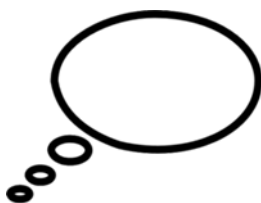
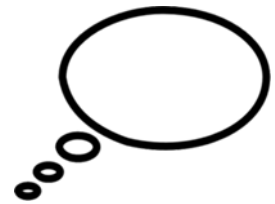
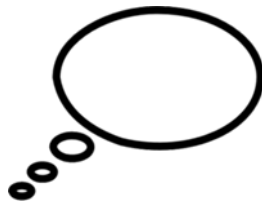
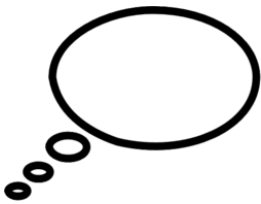
Characters

Characterization is the discovery and unravelling of what the characters in a literary work are like. You look into elements such as personality traits, morals, motivation, psychology and background of the characters.

You find out what characters are like by looking at what direct and/or indirect information the text gives you about them, their appearance, what they say and how they say it – the dialogue – what they think, what they do – the action – or what other characters tell you about them.

Characters may remain the same throughout the literary work or they may develop or change either gradually or as a result of a specific episode. A character may be 'flat', more like a type built on a single idea or quality, or 'round', more complex and capable of developing and of surprising us.

Construct your characters



Look at the following questions about characters and what is characteristic about them. Answer as many of the questions as you can on the basis of the information you get in the text and fill out the drawing. You may have to leave out some questions if they have not been dealt with in the text.

1. What does your character look like? Hair, face, skin, eyes, height, build ...?
2. How does your character dress? Clothes, colours, fabrics, accessories, shoes ...?
3. What distinctive traits are there? General appearance, smell, voice, language, way of speaking, way of walking, skills ...?
4. What is your character's background? Age, upbringing, education, job, status ...?
5. What is your character's attitude to life? Optimistic, pessimistic, extrovert, introvert, sensitive, down-to-earth, tense, relaxed ...?
6. What is your character's relationship to others? Family, friends, romance, colleagues ...?
7. What is your character's attitude to others? Loving, quarrelsome, sociable, honest, envious, (un)selfish, aggressive, easy-going, (un)kind, (un)friendly ...?
8. How do other characters feel about your character? Loving, quarrelsome, sociable, honest, envious, (un)selfish, aggressive, easy-going, (un)kind, (un)friendly ...?
9. How would you describe your character's personality? Find one line of dialogue to argue your point. Does the character's name tell us something about her/his personality?
10. How does your character fit in with the setting of the text? How do the other characters fit in?
11. Does your character remain the same throughout the story or is there a change? Does your character do something unexpected? Why/why not?
12. How do you feel about your character? Why? What might be the author's intention?

Worksheet

	Response	Reference	Creative task
1. What does your character look like? Hair, face, skin, eyes, height, build ...?			Make a poster for the police as if the person was missing.
2. How does your character dress? Clothes, colours, fabrics, accessories, shoes ...?			Make a poster for the police as if the person was missing.
3. What distinctive traits are there? General appearance, smell, voice, language, way of speaking, way of walking, skills ...?			Make a podcast or a video where you describe and demonstrate the distinctive traits.

<p>4. What is your character's background? Age, upbringing, education, job, status ...?</p>			<p>Make an interview with your character.</p>
<p>5. What is your character's attitude to life? Optimistic, pessimistic, extrovert, introvert, sensitive, down-to-earth, tense, relaxed ...?</p>			<p>Make an interview with your character.</p>
<p>6. What is your character's relationship to others? Family, friends, romance, colleagues ...?</p>			<p>Make a mind map.</p>
<p>7. What is your character's attitude to others? Loving, quarrelsome, sociable, honest, envious, (un)selfish, aggressive, easy-going, (un)kind, (un)friendly ...?</p>			<p>Make an interview with a family member or a friend who tells you about your character.</p>
<p>8. How do other characters feel about your character? Loving, quarrelsome, sociable, honest, envious, (un)selfish, aggressive, easy-going, (un)kind, (un)friendly ...?</p>			<p>Make an interview with a family member or a friend who tells you about your character.</p>
<p>9. How would you describe your character's personality? Find</p>			<p>Make a word cloud with as many adjectives</p>

<p>one line of dialogue to argue your point. Does the character's name tell us something about her/his personality?</p>			<p>as you can think of.</p>
<p>10. How does your character fit in with the setting of the text? How do the other characters fit in?</p>			<p>Make a drawing of the setting and find an artefact which shows something about your character.</p>
<p>11. Does your character remain the same throughout the story or is there a change? Does your character do something unexpected? Why/why not?</p>			<p>Be your character and tell the others why you change or why you remain the same. Also, why you do something unexpected or why not.</p>
<p>12. How do you feel about your character? Why? What might be the author's intention?</p>			<p>Be the author and explain your intentions.</p>