

Name:

How to Characterization

When dealing with a novel, film or play, you will often be asked to analyse or examine a certain character and their behaviour, relationship with others. In other words, a characterization is a written portrait of a person from a book that aims at drawing a complete picture of how this person is, behaves, acts, looks and thinks.



Preparation

- o Collect any relevant information given in the text about the character.
 - o personal data (name, age, gender) and appearance
 - o what the character says/does/thinks (main traits, behaviour, mood, views, language)
 - o what others say (or the narrator says) about him/her
- o Find out how the character is revealed in the text.
 - o what is his/her attitude towards others?
 - o do these characteristics or the reader's view of him/her change?
 - o draw conclusion & use evidence from the text (quotes and lines)



Writing

Introduction

Briefly present the character: basic personal data and outward appearance.

- o Say what his/her function/role in the story is and how he/she relates to the other characters.

Body

- o Describe the character's traits, behaviour and development, providing details from your notes.
- o Use examples and quotes to support your statements.

Conclusion

- o Sum up the most important traits.



Common mistakes

- o Don't forget to come to a conclusion.
- o Don't forget to use quotes from the text to explain your ideas!
- o Don't forget to include line numbers with your quotes!