

Characterization

Why do we read a story and examine characters, events, and ideas of these stories? The answer is to understand what can we learn from this character about how to live in the world.

Part 1

Directions: In the chart below record the names of the characters you will analyze (next to A, B, & C). The column on the left gives how you will examine the character with a series of questions. Not all the questions will apply, but it provides you with thoughts on how to create the analysis for that attribute.

Character Analysis	A=	B=	C=
Physical. What does the character look like? How do the character's physical attributes play a role in the story? How does the character feel about his or her physical attributes? How does the character change physically during the story? How do these changes affect the character's experience?			
Intellectual. How would you describe this character's intelligence? What does this character know? How does this character's intellect compare to others in the story? Is this character smart enough to thrive in the world in which he or she lives? What does this character learn as the story develops?			

<p>Emotional.</p> <p>How does this character feel most of the time? How do his or her feelings change throughout the story? How does this character feel about himself or herself? When faced with challenges in the story, what emotions come up for this character?</p>			
<p>Social.</p> <p>How does this character get along with other characters in the story? Who does this character choose for friends and why does this character choose them? Where does this character stand in the social order? How does this character's social standing affect events in the story?</p>			
<p>Philosophical.</p> <p>What does this character believe about the way life is? What are these beliefs based on? How do these beliefs affect the choices this character makes? How do those beliefs change throughout the story? Do others in the story share these beliefs?</p>			
<p>Growth.</p> <p>Do the characters change from the beginning to the end? If so, how and why?</p>			

http://www.ttms.org/say_about_a_book/character_matters.htm