

Character Facebook Page

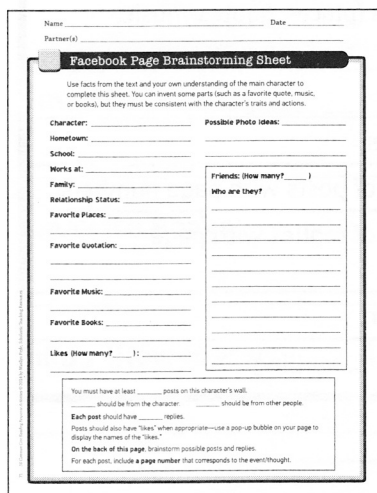
What It Is: A character's Facebook page
(during or after reading)

Use It With: Fiction, autobiography, drama

To create a Character Facebook page, students will need to know about the character's background: friends, hobbies, place of birth, school or work, major life events, and so on. The real fun, however, comes with the posts. The main character can post thoughts, and other characters can respond or just "like" the posts. Other characters can also post thoughts on the character's wall. It is this interaction between characters that reveals students' deeper comprehension of the text, and their ability to make inferences about characters and situations.

MATERIALS

- ✓ Facebook Page Brainstorming Sheet for each student, p. 71



The form is titled "Facebook Page Brainstorming Sheet" and includes fields for Name, Date, and Person(s). It contains sections for Character (Name, Hometown, School, Works at, Family, Relationship Status, Favorite Places, Favorite Quotations, Favorite Music, Favorite Books, Likes (How many?)), Possible Photo Ideas, and Friends (How many? Who are they?). It also includes instructions for students to use facts from the text to complete the sheet, to brainstorm possible posts and replies, and to include a page number that corresponds to the event/thought.

- ✓ Sheets of paper for drafting
- ✓ Sheets of white paper, posterboard, or butcher paper for final pages
- ✓ Markers, crayons, colored pencils

Note: On Facebook, clicking on a category like "Friends," "Likes," or "About" takes you to a new Web

CC CONNECTION!

To create a Facebook page, students must not only find explicit information and "make logical inferences" from the text (R.1) but also analyze the interaction of individuals and events (R.3).

page; this can be replicated by having a sheet of paper for each Web page.

Overview: Pairs or small groups of three work best for this activity. Tailor the assignment to best meet the needs of your students. Here are two possibilities:

1. Give students a large poster with the categories in a Facebook layout; they will then fill in the information.
2. Assign an amount, such as "three Facebook pages," and let students figure out which categories to include and how to arrange them. To ensure that students are drawing inferences about the characters and events, require that at least one page consists of posts with replies. You can also require that posts be about a certain event in the text or specify the number of posts (e.g., five posts about events in the rising action and one post about the climax, with two replies for each post).

One feature that is difficult to replicate is the prevalence of pictures on Facebook—every friend, place, and "like" is usually accompanied by a picture. I tell students that they can be creative with illustrations, and if they become too frustrated, to use words only. If time permits, or if motivation is high, kids can print, cut and paste, or draw pictures. However, if that is too difficult or time-consuming, words will always suffice.