

Name _____

Understanding "Character" Analysis

Literary Term	Definition	Class Example	My Own Example
Character	A person, animal, or thing in a work of literature.		
Analysis	Breaking down a piece of literature so that it can be understood.		
Characterization	The process of creating a character, including: words, actions, thoughts, appearance, other peoples' thoughts and perceptions about the character.		
Main Character	The character that is represented in the story the most. The plot usually revolves around this character.		
Minor Character	One of the characters represented in the story, but not the main character.		
Static Character	A character that changes very little from the beginning to the end.		
Dynamic Character	A character that goes through a significant amount of changes from the beginning to the end.		
Conflict	A struggle between opposing forces: usually internal or external conflict.		

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Internal Conflict	A struggle within the character		
External Conflict	A struggle against another character, idea, organization, etc.		
Complications	Things that the character must consider before solving or dealing with a conflict.		
Climax	A high point of the story, such as where a character must make a big decision.		
Motivation	Why do characters behave the way they do?		
Strengths	The positive qualities and characteristics in a character.		
Weaknesses	The negative qualities and characteristics in a character.		
Figurative Language	Any use of metaphors and/or similes by the character.		