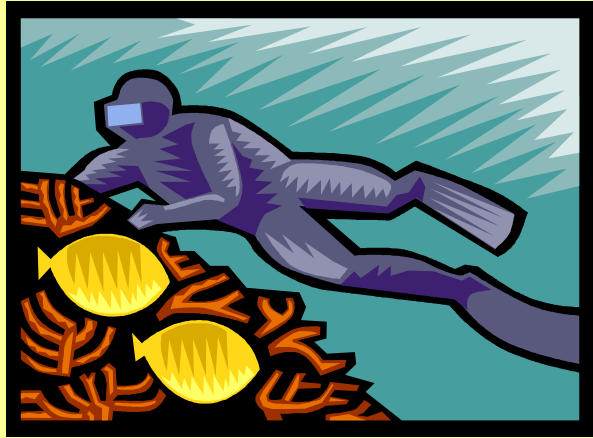


CHARACTERIZATION



CHARACTERIZATION

- Characters are the people, animals, or imaginary creatures in a story.
- The main character is the one who the story is mostly about.



Readers come to know a character through the character's

words,

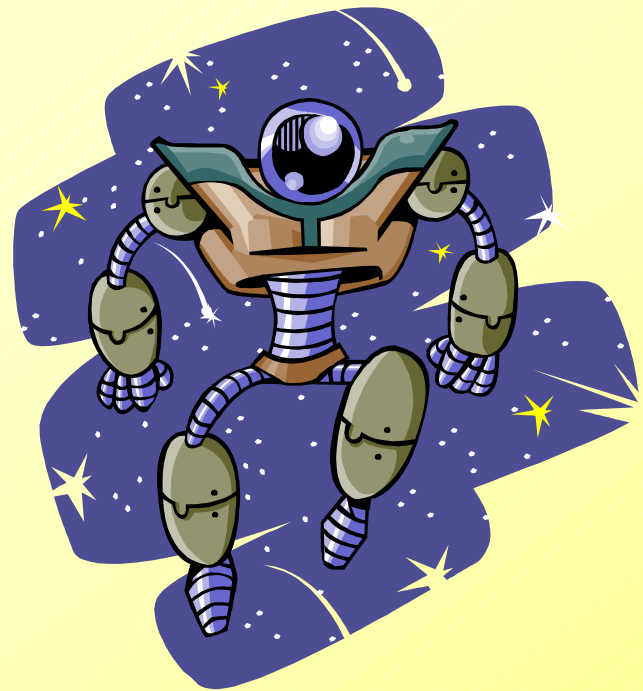
thoughts, and

actions.



Analyze characters including their

- Traits
- Motivations
- Conflicts
- Points of view
- Relationships
- Changes they undergo



TRAITS

Characters have certain traits, or qualities, that make them unique and set them apart from the other characters.



Is your character

skillful?

thoughtful?

intelligent?

dishonest?

persistent?

concerned?

fearful?

determined?

friendly?

lazy?

capable?

wise?

MOTIVATION

A character's motivation is what makes him/her think, feel, or act in a particular way.

When you know the reasons for a character's actions, thoughts, or feelings, you understand his/her motivation.

A character's motivation influences his/her actions. The actions, in turn, reveal the character's traits.

A character may be motivated by

FEAR

GUILT

GREED

REVENGE

ANGER

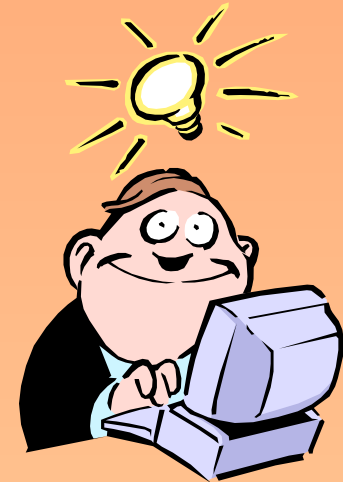
PEACE

SUCCESS

LOVE

QUESTIONS to ask about characters

- How does the character feel?
- How do other characters feel about the character?
- What does the character do?
- What does the character say?
- What do other characters say about the character?
- How does the character change in the story?



Characters that **CHANGE** or not!

- *DYNAMIC CHARACTERS*—change throughout the story



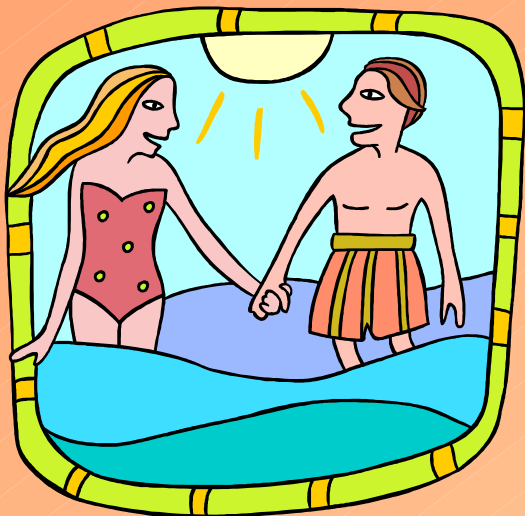
- *STATIC CHARACTERS*—stay the same or do not change throughout the story



Relationships

You can tell a lot about a character by examining the character's relationships in the story.

Types of relationships:



between/among other characters

with self

with society

with nature/environment

CHANGES



Just as we are changed by our experiences in real life, characters undergo changes in a story.

A character often changes as different events unfold, and these changes can affect the outcome of the story.

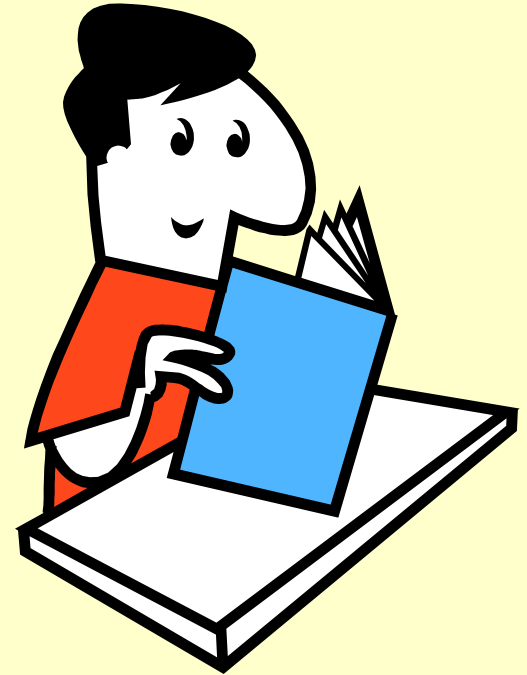
Types of Changes

- *Intellectual*
- *Emotional*
- *Physical*
- *Change from beginning to end*
- *Change before an event and after an event in the plot*



TAKS QUESTION TIPS:

- **MAKE SURE** you go back to the passage to find clues to accurately support your answer about characters.
- **WATCH OUT** for inaccurate/contradictory information.
- **WATCH OUT** for plausible statements that aren't supported by information in the passage.



SAMPLE TAKS QUESTION

16. In paragraph 5, why does Angela forget what she is supposed to do first?

F. She has recently made a change to her program.

Plausible statement but not supported by passage

G. She gets upset after she makes a mistake.

Contradicts information in the passage.

H. She decides to try a jump she has never done before.

Contradicts information in the passage.

J. She is nervous about competing in the championship.

Correct answer.

TAKS STEM QUESTIONS

TRAITS

- In paragraph ____, what does it mean when the narrator says “_____”?
- In paragraph ____, _____ was a little nervous (excited, sad, etc.) because he/she—

MOTIVATION

- In paragraph ____, why does _____ do _____?

CONFLICT

- _____ is worried because —
- Why is _____ distracted when _____?

TAKS STEM QUESTIONS

POINT OF VIEW

- How does the narrator's view change by the end of the selection?

RELATIONSHIPS

- From his/her actions toward _____ provided in the story, the reader can conclude –

CHANGES

- How do _____ and _____'s attitudes differ at the beginning of the story?
- Which of these best describes _____'s attitude at the end of the story?