Lesson 3: Characters

Protagonist vs. Antagonist

Most good fiction stories will have 2 important characters. A Protagonist and an antagonist.

Protagonist	Antagonist
The protagonist is the main character in the story. They are usually the hero at the end of the story.	The antagonist is the bad/evil character in the story. They are usually in conflict with the protagonist.
Traits: Loyal Brave Courageous Hard Working Quick Thinker Likeable Kind and Caring	**Traits:** Mean Jealous Lazy Judgemental Selfish Greedy Rude

Types of Characters

In a story, there are many types of characters that an author will add. Some impact the plot more than others.

Round Characters   &   Dynamic Characters

We usually know a lot about round and dynamic characters. They are often the main characters and they go through change in the story.

Flat Characters   &   Static Characters
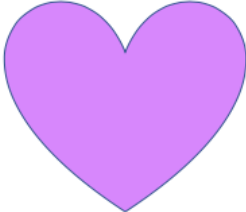
Flat and static characters don't experience much change and the readers know very little about them. They do not impact the plot very much.

Finding Character Traits

Sometimes the author will say the traits of a character, but sometimes the reader will have to infer what a character's traits are through **actions, dialogue, feelings, and thoughts**.

Actions

What does the character do?
Do they follow rules?
How do they treat other characters?
What can you infer from the character's action?

Dialogue

What are the words the character is saying?
Do they talk the same to all the other characters?
What do the words reveal about their personality?

Feelings

How does the character feel about the events and other characters in the story?
Why do you think the character feels that way?
Do the feelings change?

Thoughts

What types of things does the character thing about?
What does the character say to themselves?

positive
Character Traits

active	friendly	loving
adventurous	fun	neat
ambitious	funny	nice
beautiful	generous	obedient
brave	generous	organized
brilliant	good	outgoing
calm	grateful	patient
caring	groovy	pleasant
cheerful	handsome	polite
clever	happy	pretty
confident	hardworking	quiet
cool	helpful	respectful
cooperative	honest	responsible
courageous	humble	serious
courteous	humorous	silly
creative	imaginative	smart joyful
curious	intelligent	sweet
cute	interesting	thoughtful
dependable	jolly	timid
easygoing	kind	trustworthy
energetic	loud	wild
fair	lovable	witty

Complete the following.

1. Make a list of protagonist/antagonist characters you know of. They can be from any type of text (movie, book, etc.). Try to think of at least 3 sets.

For example: Nemo (protagonist) vs. Bruce the Shark (antagonist)

Protagonists	Antagonist
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

2. What are the 4 ways you can figure out what a character's traits are?

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