

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

One of the literary elements I would like to focus on with this text is character study. The overall goal is for you to be able to successfully complete a character study in any situation and any text. To do so, you should be able to:

- Visualize characters as they appear in your mind.
- Recognize overt character traits (obvious things about the characters).
- Infer subtle character traits (figure out what's going on with the character without the author actually stating something).
- Support inferences with evidence from the text (be able to point to specific lines in a story to prove you're right about your assumptions).
- Recognize how and why characters change.
- Determine if the character has impacted you as a reader and writer.

In order for you to successfully track your character, you can follow the simple procedures I've spelled out below.

1. Divide yourselves into four groups (2-3 people per group).
2. Each group will be assigned one of the major characters from the book—there are four.
3. Work with your group to track your character and his/her development (or the lack).
4. As you read the assigned pages, focus on your character and take notes on him/her.
5. Fill out the “How and Why Characters Change” worksheet for each section of reading.
6. You will have 5-10 minutes at the start of each class period to discuss with your group what's been going on with your character.
7. Compile a single “How and Why Characters Change” worksheet from the group for each reading session. Analyze the character from the start of the reading assignment to the end for this section only (so only the pages that are assigned for this date).
8. Present to the class how and why your character has/hasn't changed during those pages. You will receive points on your worksheet and the depth of your knowledge.

What will you be looking at in your character? Here you go:

1. What is your character's name?
2. What does his/her name mean? ((BabyNames.com)
3. What are the connotations behind the name (can you think of famous or infamous people in history who had the name?)
4. How old is your character?
5. What does he/she look like?
6. Skim through the assigned chapters, locate when your character speaks and/or acts.
 - What kinds of things is he/she likely to say/do that help define his/her character?
 - How does the author describe him/her during those times?
 - What are his/her emotions and feelings?
 - What are his/her actions?
 - How do other characters respond to him/her?
 - How does this help shape him/her?