

Project #2 – Character Traits

For our second project, you will be reading a book and then writing about the main character's personality traits.

BOOK CHOSEN BY: _____

PROJECT DUE DATE: _____

- First, choose a “just-right” book (Realistic, Historical, or Fantasy Fiction)
- You will have 2 ½ weeks to read it, take notes, and write your response
- Write a two - three paragraph reading response stating the importance of the main character and describing the character's personality traits.

Reasons a character is important in the story might include:

Change/Growth	Character learns something or changes throughout the story
Accomplishment	Character overcomes challenges and succeeds
Cause/Effect	Character causes important events or influences other characters

Ways to reveal a character's personality traits:

Actions	What does the character do/say?
Motives	Why is the character behaving in a certain way? What is “behind” their actions?
Reactions	How does the character handle situations/conflicts that happen?

• **READING RESPONSE BREAKDOWN**

Paragraph ONE	* Title, author, introduces main character *Shows how main character is important in the story
Paragraph Two	Topic sentence describing three character traits. THREE EXAMPLES FROM THE STORY THAT PROVE YOUR CHOICES!
Paragraph Three (optional for exceeding)	Write a paragraph describing how the main character is viewed by other characters in the story (what traits they think the main character has and why). You can choose all three traits viewed by the same character, or can tell about 2-3 different characters. *In order to receive exceeding, your three viewpoints MUST have examples from the book)

MY READING SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
			PROJECT DUE!			

Character Trait and Evidence Analysis

Name/s _____

[Empty box for notes]

[Empty box for notes]

Character:

[Empty box for character analysis]

[Empty box for character analysis]

[Empty box for notes]

[Empty box for notes]

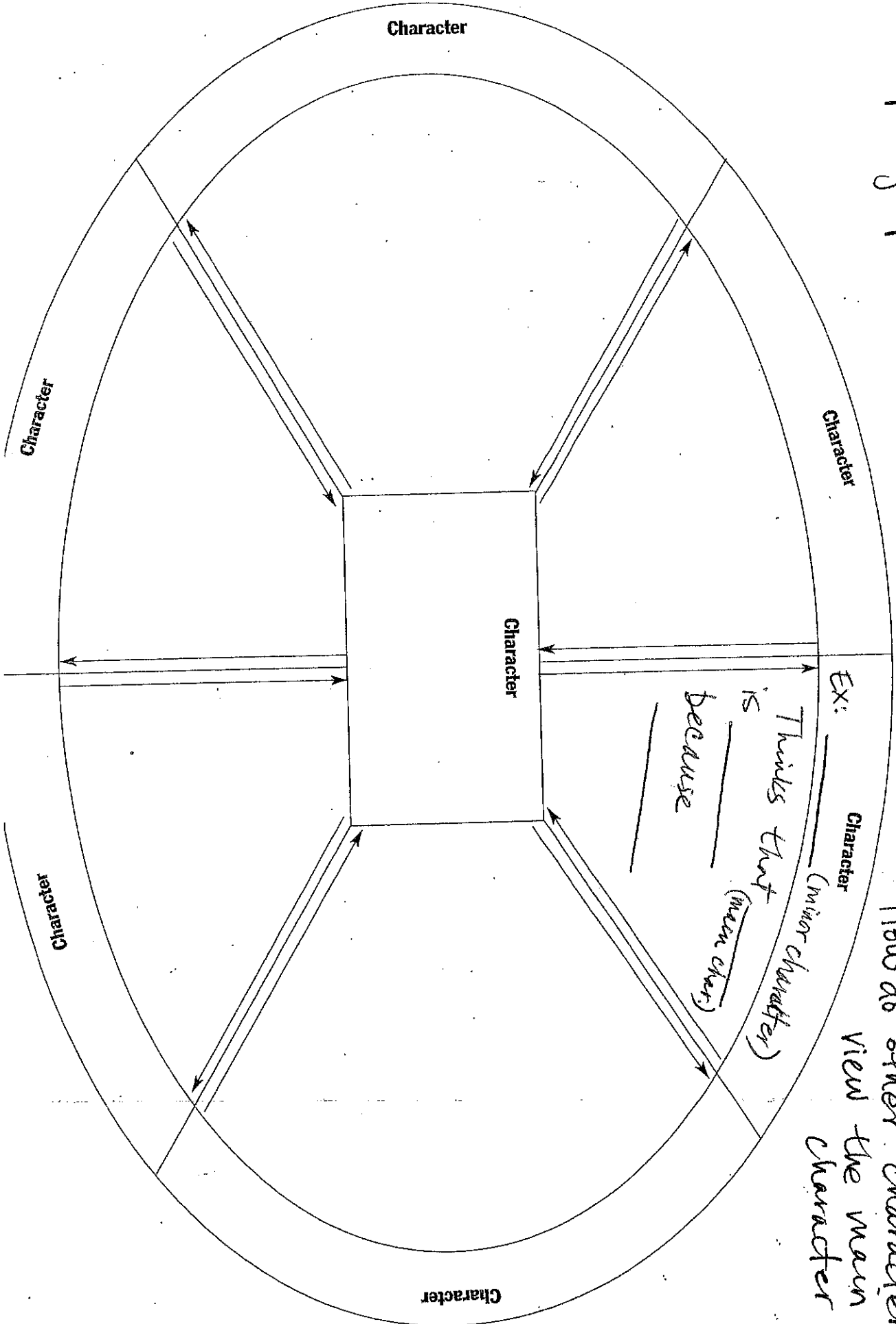
[Empty box for notes]

Note collection
for Paragraph 3

OPTIONAL
Character Sociogram

Name/s _____

How do other characters
view the main character?



Sample Character Traits

able	demanding	hopeless	restless
active	dependable	humorous	rich
adventurous	depressed	ignorant	rough
affectionate	determined	imaginative	rowdy
afraid	discouraged	impatient	rude
alert	dishonest	impolite	sad
ambitious	disrespectful	inconsiderate	safe
angry	doubtful	independent	satisfied
annoyed	dull	industrious	scared
anxious	dutiful	innocent	secretive
apologetic	eager	intelligent	selfish
arrogant	easygoing	jealous	serious
attentive	efficient	kindly	sharp
average	embarrassed	lazy	short
bad	encouraging	leader	shy
blue	energetic	lively	silly
bold	evil	lonely	skillful
bored	excited	loving	sly
bossy	expert	loyal	smart
brainy	fair	lucky	sneaky
brave	faithful	mature	sorry
bright	fearless	mean	spoiled
brilliant	fierce	messy	stingy
busy	foolish	miserable	strange
calm	fortunate	mysterious	strict
careful	foul	naughty	stubborn
careless	fresh	nervous	sweet
cautious	friendly	nice	talented
charming	frustrated	noisy	tall
cheerful	funny	obedient	thankful
childish	gentle	obnoxious	thoughtful
clever	giving	old	thoughtless
clumsy	glamorous	peaceful	tired
coarse	gloomy	picky	tolerant
concerned	good	pleasant	touchy
confident	graceful	polite	trusting
confused	grateful	poor	trustworthy
considerate	greedy	popular	unfriendly
cooperative	grouchy	positive	unhappy
courageous	grumpy	precise	upset
cowardly	guilty	proper	useful
cross	happy	proud	warm
cruel	harsh	quick	weak
curious	hateful	quiet	wicked
dangerous	healthy	rational	wise
daring	helpful	reliable	worried
dark	honest	religious	wrong
decisive	hopeful	responsible	young

Percy Jackson in The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan is a very heroic, smart, and protective character ^{in the story}.

One of his traits ^{was} heroic. The first example of how he is heroic ^{is} that he completes a very complicated and challenging quest. ^{The second example is that} he saves the lightning bolt. This is important because if he did not return the lightning bolt, Zeus and Poseidon would have started a long and terrible war that would effect the entire human race. The last reason he is heroic is because he kills Ares who is the person who ^{STARTED} all the bad rumors about Percy and his father, ^{POSEIDON} Poseidon.

The second trait he carries is smart. The first example of how he is smart is he knows when to use water to save him. The second example of how he is smart is that when he falls off of the tall building he knows that he should fall into the water so that he can survive. ^{Finally} the last example of how he is smart is that when he is fighting Ares, he goes into the water to heal himself and at the same time gain more power to fight with.

^{PERCY IS ALSO} The last trait that he carries is protective. The first example of how he is protective is that he saves his friends throughout the story. The second example of how he is protective is that he saves Grover when he may be about to die after the monster had attacked them. The last example of how he is protective is that he saves his friends from the underworld so that they do not die.

In conclusion, Percy Jackson is a heroic, smart, and protective.

Student draft of Par. #2 with parent revisions

Percy's Character Traits by Aiden Marcelis

Percy Jackson in The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan is a very heroic, smart, and protective character.

One of his traits was heroism. The first example of how he is heroic is that he completes a very complicated and challenging quest, he saves the lightning bolt. This is important because if he did not return the lightning bolt, Zeus and Poseidon would have started a long and terrible war that would effect the entire human race. The last reason he is heroic is because he kills Ares who is the person who started all the bad rumors about Percy and his father, Poseidon.

The second trait he possesses is that he is smart. The first example of how he is smart is he knows when to use water to save him. When he falls off of the tall building he knows that he should fall into the water so that he can survive. Finally, when he is fighting Ares he goes into the water to heal himself and at the same time gain more power to fight with.

Percy is also protective. The first example of how he is protective is that he saves his friends throughout the story. The second example of how he is protective is that he saves Grover when he may be about to die after the monster has attacked them. The last example of how he is protective is that he saves his friends from the underworld so that they do not die.

In conclusion, Percy Jackson is a heroic, smart, and protective.

Student final copy of Par. #2

Topic sentence

Example from the text. explanation traits

Concluding sentence

In the book Sweet Valley Twins, Jessica and the Brat Attack, written by Francine Pascal, Jessica Wakefield is the main character. Jessica is important to the story because she has taken her twin sister's baby-sitting job {behind her back} and her plan to make money ends up backfiring. The children that Jessica were so excited to meet, and in her head were complete angels, ended up being real devils the very second their mom left the house. Jessica is faced with a dilemma that leaves the reader wondering, "will she call her sister for advice and risk her sister being angry with her, or try to figure out how to control the uncontrollable children?"

add why important

Jessica was ¹ sneaky, and ² selfish in the beginning of the story, but as the book unfolded, she became humbled by her sister's acts. Jessica is sneaky because in the text it says, "I knew how badly you wanted to go to the fair on Saturday and how hard it was going to be for you baby-sitting all day when everyone else was at the park having a great time, so I took your job". Elizabeth stared at her. "You what!"; This proves Jessica was sneaky, because she hid the baby-sitting job, instead of telling Elizabeth. Jessica's motive for being sneaky was because she didn't want to work at the fair with her bad job of working the water balloon toss. Jessica is also selfish because in the text it says, "There were a lot of things Jessica could do with seventy dollars... Elizabeth didn't need the money half as much as she did." This proves Jessica is selfish because she only thought of her needs, not her sister's needs. Jessica's reaction to the badly behaved children was also selfish because instead of trying to resolve the problem with the children, she desperately called her sister, {who she betrayed} for help. Another character trait about Jessica is she becomes humble towards the end of the story by her sister's actions. In the text it says, "Elizabeth cut her off. Realizing Jessica wasn't kidding and really was in trouble, she decided it was time for her to help. 'Have you tried being strict with them?' 'I tried everything,' Jessica cried." This proves Jessica felt her decision to steal the job was wrong and she now has an appreciation of how hard babysitting actually is. To be humble is to realize that you are not the best at something and to realize that you have to respect other people's abilities.

Yes!!

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Elizabeth, Jessica's sister, thinks Jessica is disrespectful. I know this because in the text it says, "Elizabeth stared at her. 'You what?'" This proves that she couldn't believe that Jessica went behind her back to steal her babysitting job, which is something a disrespectful person would do. Jessica didn't value her sister enough to ask her permission if she could baby-sit her clients. This proves she had no respect for her sister in this situation. Jessica was able to resolve this situation by admitting she was wrong, so her sister didn't think she was disrespectful any more. Jessica's sister, Elizabeth, forgave her. I believe this lesson of forgiveness motivated Elizabeth to respect her sister very much. The lesson that they both learned is to respect each other and ask for each other's advice. Being dishonest and disrespectful never has a good ending, they learned. Another character trait that Elizabeth thinks of Jessica is she is popular in school. I know this because in the text it says, "Jessica loved being the center of attention... She was also a member of the Unicorn Club. A group made of the most popular girls in the grade." This proves that Elizabeth believes Jessica is popular since she says, "She is in a group made of the most popular girls in the grade." I think being popular made Jessica a little insensitive because she didn't think of her sister's feelings in the beginning of the story. Sometimes when you are popular and the center of attention, you

Yes!!

forget about other's feelings. I think the author wanted to portray Jessica as popular to show that this trait made her insensitive in the beginning of the story. However, being popular does not have to be negative, it should be positive because it means you are well-liked.

In conclusion, this story was an excellent example of how a character can change and grow throughout a story. In the beginning of the story, Jessica was selfish, and sneaky, but by the end of the story, she became humble and respectful. I learned to love Jessica by the end!

Ⓟ Conclusion



Example written
by a 5th Grade
Student

Character Analysis

By: Linnea Hummel

In Phyllis Reynolds Naylor's story, Shiloh, Marty is one of the main characters. Marty is important to the story because when he first finds Shiloh, there is an instant bond between the two of them and creates a strong relationship. But when Marty discovers that Shiloh's owner, Judd Travers, abuses beagles to make them hunt, it immediately makes Marty want to keep Shiloh forever. After Marty learns about Shiloh's difficult life, all Marty wants to do is help the dog out.

Marty is caring, willing, afraid, unreliable, and determined. Marty is a caring person because he wants Shiloh to have a good life and a good home. To do that, he made a pen for Shiloh and gave him food and water. Marty is also willing because he wants to do whatever it takes to keep Shiloh as a pet, and even wants to save up money to pay for all his needs. However, Marty is afraid because if Judd takes Shiloh back, he'll continue to treat the dog cruelly. So Marty is unreliable to Judd and lies to him that he doesn't have Shiloh, even after he made a promise to him. At the same time Marty is also reliable, because he made a promise to Shiloh, and I know he isn't going to break it. Marty becomes determined to rescue Shiloh and save him from his terrible life.

I think that Shiloh "believes" that Marty is trustworthy towards him because Marty made a promise to Shiloh that "Judd Travers isn't never going to kick you again." (page 42). I also think that Mr. Wallace (the store manager) surprisingly thinks that Marty and his family are poor because when Marty asked to buy cheap food from him, for Shiloh's dinner, Mr. Wallace then assumed that Marty's family was having hard times. As a result, Mr. Wallace told the other neighbors this, and during Marty's dad's mail delivery, he found all kinds of food in the mailboxes for them.



Name:

Character Analysis Rubric

	Meeting	Approaching	Beginning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph #1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names title, author, and introduces main character Insightful explanation of the character's importance to the story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing one of the following (title, author, or introduces main character) Limited explanation of the character's importance to the story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few introductory paragraph elements included No explanation of the character's importance to the story
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph #2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic sentence with three traits included Clear or effective examples of the character's traits with page numbers are included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempt at topic sentence with traits included Some examples of the character's traits are included Examples may not be clearly stated/page numbers may not be included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No topic sentence Limited examples of the character's traits are included Or Incorrect interpretation of character's traits
<p>Conventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation, errors may interfere with meaning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sentences may be awkward or fragmented. Many errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many sentences are awkward and fragmented. Many errors may be present and interfere with meaning.
<p>Exceeding Option</p>			
<p>Add a Third Paragraph that will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe your character's personality traits from the point of view of another character or characters. Cite examples from the text to support character traits. 		<p>To score Exceeding, you have everything above and your 3rd paragraph has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic sentence with two character traits (from another character's view) included Two or more points of view with examples are included, showing different traits of the main character (with page numbers) 	