

Name: _____

Character and Characterization

- A **character** is a person or animal who takes part in the action of a literary work. Characters can be described in many different ways.

- Importance of Roles:

Major character – A character who plays an important role in a story

Minor character – A character who does not play an important role in a story

- Roles:

Protagonist – A character who plays the central role in a story

Antagonist – A character who opposes the protagonist

- Complexity of Character:

Round character – A complex character

Flat character – A simple character

- Degree of Change in Character:

Dynamic character – A character who changes

Static character – A character who does not change

- Stock/Stereotype Character:

Ex: wicked stepmother, detective/sleuth

- **Characterization** is the act of creating and developing a character
- **Direct characterization** – the writer states a character's traits explicitly
- **Indirect characterization** – the writer reveals a character's traits by some other means. A reader is supposed to infer a character's traits from the clues provided by the writer
 - what the character does, says, or thinks
 - by means of a description of appearance
 - by means of the statements, thoughts, or actions of *other* characters

Name: _____

Characterization

Character: Katniss Everdeen	
Character's Dilemma or Flaw. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text! Dilemma or Flaw #1: Evidence: Dilemma or Flaw #2: Evidence:	
Character's Notable Actions or Quote. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text! Action or Quote #1: Evidence: Action or Quote #2: Evidence:	Character's Traits. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text! Trait #1: Evidence: Trait #2: Evidence:
Put it all together! In as much detail as possible and in your own words, make a <u>contestable claim</u> about the character you chose. Who is he or she? What does he or she believe? Provide direct evidence from the text. Claim: Evidence #1: Evidence #2:	

Name: Mr. Jun

Characterization

Character: Peeta Mellark

Character's Dilemma or Flaw. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text!

Dilemma or Flaw #1: Peeta appears to be romantically interested in Katniss but has issues asserting himself and expressing his feelings openly.

Evidence: "Your friend Gale. He's the one who took your sister away at the reaping?" ...Peeta raises his eyebrows as if this is news. But after watching him lie so smoothly, I don't give this much weight..." (84)

Dilemma or Flaw #2:

Evidence:

Character's Notable Actions or Quote. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text!

Action or Quote #1: Peeta puts his jacket around Katniss.

Evidence: "Peeta takes off his jacket and wraps it around my shoulders. I start to take a step back, but then I let him..." (83)

Action or Quote #2:

Evidence:

Character's Traits. Provide 2 examples and provide direct evidence from the text!

Trait #1: Peeta appears to be genuinely kind and interested in Katniss's well-being.

Evidence: "And then he gives me a smile that seems so genuinely sweet with just the right touch of shyness that unexpected warmth rushes through me." (72)

Trait #2:

Evidence:

Put it all together! In as much detail as possible and in your own words, make a contestable claim about the character you chose. Who is he or she? What does he or she believe? Provide direct evidence from the text.

Claim: Peeta is the classic "good guy." He is shy, polite and genuine, but maybe a little boring (he bakes!).

Evidence #1: "He really likes you and your sister...The idea that I might ever have been discussed, around the dinner table, at the bakery fire..." (84)

Evidence #2: "He was with his friends and didn't acknowledge me in any way. But as I collected Prim and started for home that afternoon, I found him staring at me from across the school yard." (32)