

KEYNOTE: CHARACTER ANALYSIS WITH TEXT MESSAGING (Teacher Instructions)

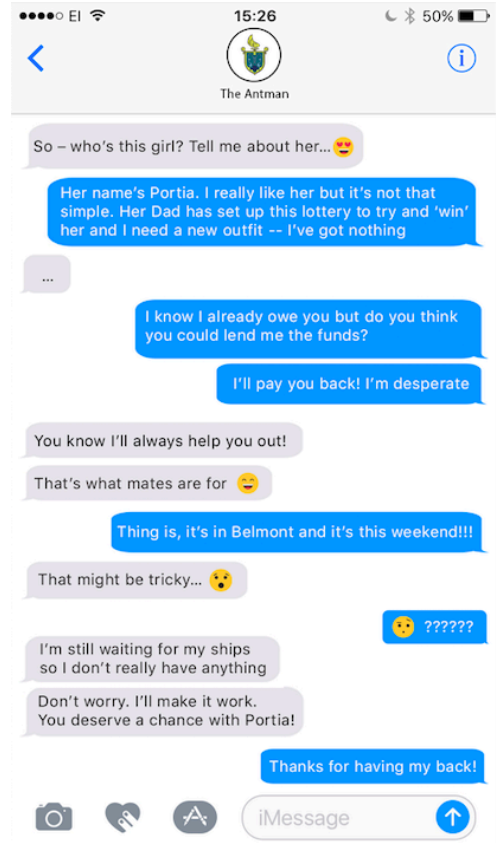
Overview: This 60-minute strategy helps students imaginatively analyze the motivations and personalities of literary characters. Using a [template](#) in Apple Keynote, students work independently or collaboratively to create a fictional text message exchange between two characters to demonstrate their understanding of persona and character motivation.

Outline:

STEP	TIME	DESCRIPTION
Learn	15 min	Students imagine how characters might use text messaging to discuss a fictional event using these steps. Students should show character motivation and character knowledge.
Draft	20 min	Independently or in pairs, students consider how two characters from their assigned reading would respond to seeing a child who is upset on the playground. Use this sample as inspiration. [For distance learning, you can assign digital partners or breakout video conferencing rooms.]
Create	20 min	Students apply their knowledge and create an imagined text message exchange using an Apple Keynote template (on the iPad, select the 3 dots → Open in → Keynote). Encourage students to think deeply about character motivation using evidence from their text.
Share	5 min	Students share their projects using your learning management system or other preferred method.



Example:



This strategy was adapted from a lesson by EdgeGain by Dr. Magdalena H. Gross, a former 8th grade teacher who now produces curriculum and education content at Adobe.

See student handout on next page

CHARACTER ANALYSIS WITH TEXT MESSAGING (STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS)

OBJECTIVE: You will imaginatively analyze how literary characters interact via text message about a fictional event to demonstrate your understanding of character motivation and personas.

STEP	INSTRUCTIONS	TIME
1	<p>Choose two characters in a book or play you are reading. Imagine how your characters might text about helping a child in need for example, a child crying on a swing in a playground. Be sure to show character knowledge and motivation in the texts.</p> <p>Make sure to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What are the unique roles and motivations of those characters in the text you are reading? ● Given their unique position and motivation, how might they respond to seeing a child crying on a swing in a playground? ● Consider how would these two characters communicate about helping this child- what words would they use, would they help right away? Call the Police? Be suspicious? Be empathetic? ● And finally how would they communicate towards one another? <p>For inspiration, take a look at this sample.</p>	15 min
2	<p>Get ready to create your own text exchange!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Draft what your characters would say to one another using your thinking from step 1. ● To save time, use this Keynote template. ● Have some fun adding appropriate emojis (on the emoji keyboard) to further illustrate the character's emotions. ● Be sure to review the rubric below prior to beginning to ensure you understand the expectations. 	40 min
3	Share your text exchange as directed by your teacher.	5 min

RUBRIC

Criteria	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1	Level R
Creativity: innovative thinking	Excellent extension of a novel or unique idea, by creating contemporary text messages to show character. Excellent creation of new knowledge or knowledge that crosses boundaries or is interdisciplinary.	Good extension of a novel or unique idea, by creating contemporary text messages to show character. Good creation of new knowledge or knowledge that crosses boundaries or is interdisciplinary.	Satisfactory extension of a novel or unique idea, by creating contemporary text messages to show character. Satisfactory creation of new knowledge or knowledge that crosses boundaries or is interdisciplinary.	Attempted extension of a novel or unique idea, by creating contemporary text messages to show character. Attempted creation of new knowledge or knowledge that crosses boundaries or is interdisciplinary.	Did not meet expectations.
Communication: purpose and message	You demonstrate a thorough understanding of context, audience, and purpose that is responsive to assignment, you have considered character and message throughout.	You demonstrate a good understanding of context, audience, and purpose that is responsive to assignment, you have regularly considered character and message.	You demonstrate a satisfactory understanding of context, audience, and purpose that is responsive to assignment, you have occasionally considered character and message.	You demonstrate a thorough understanding of context, audience, and purpose that is responsive to assignment, you have rarely considered character and message throughout.	Did not meet expectations.
Visual design	Effective use of the template and graphic principles, like contrast and alignment to communicate the message and direct the audience's attention. Your sentences are error free.	Good use of the template and graphic principles, like contrast and alignment to communicate the message and direct the audience's attention. Sentences contain 1-2 errors.	Satisfactory use of the template and graphic principles, like contrast and alignment, to communicate the message and direct the audience's attention. Sentences have 3-4 errors.	Attempted use of the template and graphic principles, like contrast and alignment, to communicate the message and direct the audience's attention. Sentences have 3-4 errors.	Did not meet expectations.