

Grades: 6-12

Create Character(s)

Common Core Standard(s): CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3

Materials Needed: Blank paper and pencil or chromebook/laptop for each student

Objective: Students will be able to create an interesting character with unique but believable traits.

Lesson Plan

1. Hand out blank paper and pencils or chromebooks/laptops to students.
2. Start Robyn Schneider's class called 'Getting to the Heart of Your Characters.' This class is interactive and has points where students will do writing. Whenever one of these comes up, have students do the actual writing. Feel free to pause if you want to give students more time to write during these activities.
3. When the class is finished, have students share the characters they created.
4. For homework, have students go home and use the link below to find a personality quiz to further flesh out characters. You could also have them take one for themselves or fill one out based on what they think a friend would choose.

<https://www.themuse.com/advice/14-free-personality-tests-thatll-help-you-figure-yourself-out>

5. End by reminding students characters have to be more than two dimensional descriptions. They have to live and breathe on the page, and the first step to being able to do that is to understand their characters on a deeper level.

*Advanced Application Activity

Editing Skills:

For extra practice to reinforce today's topic you may assign students to work, in class or at home, on a chapter or page of their story applying the key techniques learned today. The papers can be exchanged with other students for peer review with specific attention to just the topic of focus. This will enhance editing skills and further engrain the lesson.



Revising Skills:

When the papers are returned students have the opportunity of fine tuning the skill of taking feedback and applying it to revision and rewrite of their manuscript.

Group Discussion:

After rough draft and final draft are returned it may be helpful to share what was most helpful or difficult about the feedback and how it may have helped to improve their writing.

Extra Credit Opportunities:

Offer extra credit for those who attend live or online TABC & TwABC writing conferences or for submitting their writing to be published in the TEEN AUTHOR BOOT CAMP: POETRY, TEEN ANTHOLOGY & FIRST CHAPTER CONTESTS. For the younger aspiring writers there is the Tween First Paragraph Contest.

<https://www.teenauthorbootcamp.com/contests>

[Teen Author Boot Camp](#)[™] in March & **[Tween Author Boot Camp](#)**[™] in November are great writing conferences to attend in person or online to meet favorite authors and to be a part of a supportive writing community that will help students hone their writing skills, get published and boost their confidence.

