

**Character Connections**

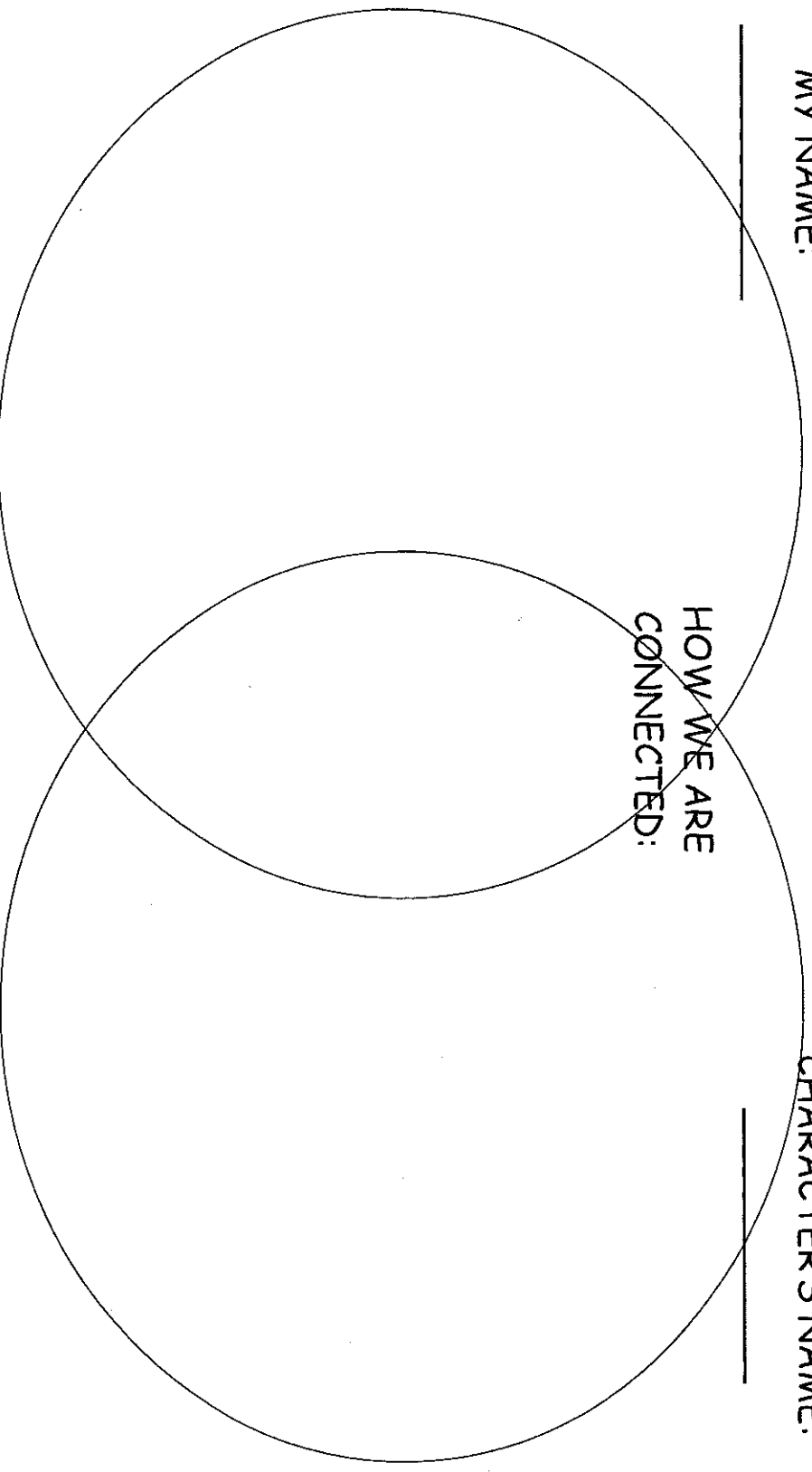
Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Choose a character from your reading. How are you and this character alike? How are you different? Complete the Venn diagram below to show your connections with the character.

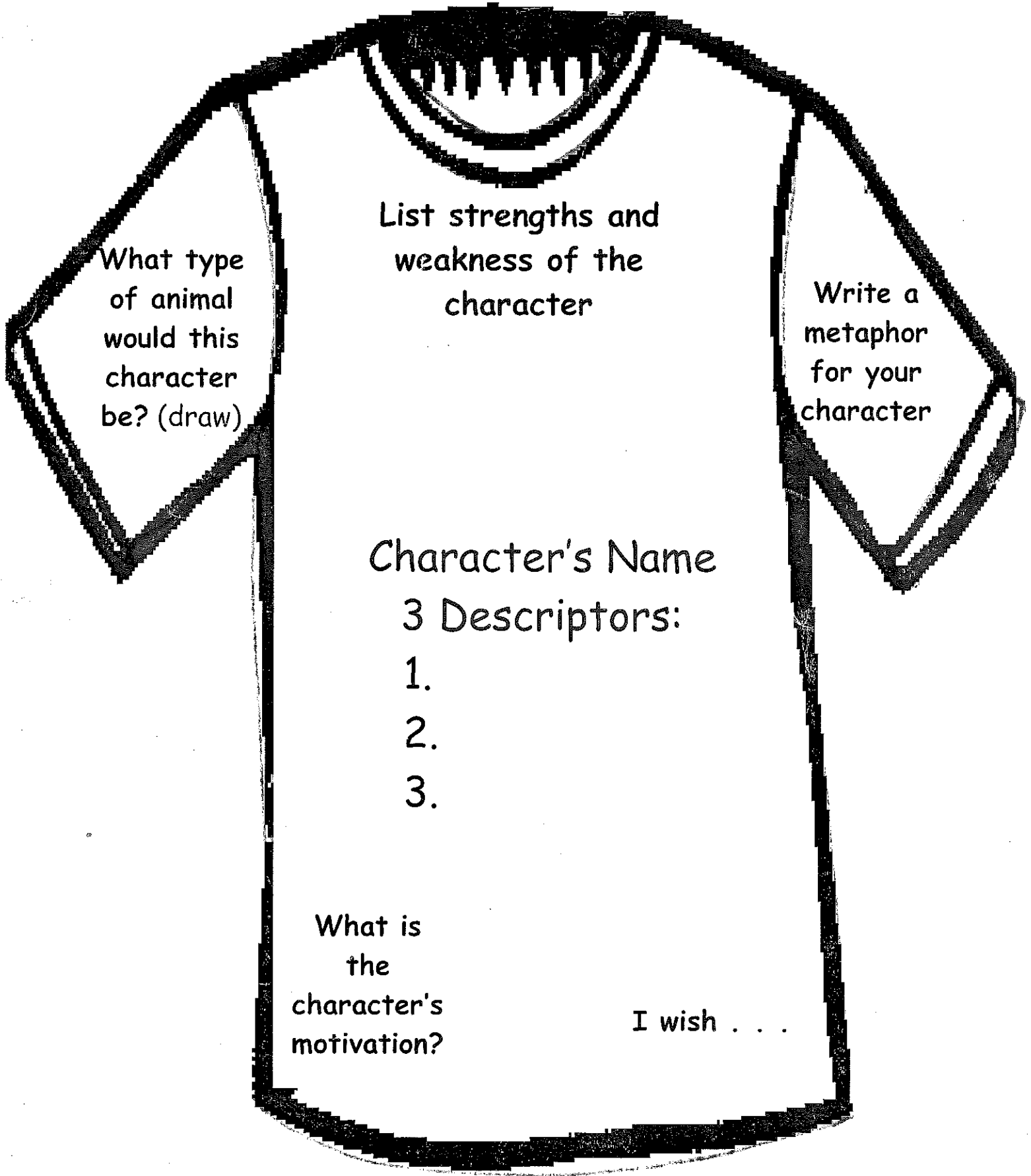
MY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CHARACTER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOW WE ARE  
CONNECTED:



Oct. 22-26



TRACE THE T-SHIRT ON THE BACK, THEN FILL IN THE ANSWERS ON THE BLANK SHIRT. ☺

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## CHARACTER ANALYSIS

1. What is your character's objective in the scene (what do they want/need)?

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2. What are the obstacles in the way of your character getting what he/she wants?

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3. Where does the scene take place? Draw a diagram of the set.

4. What would your character look like? Draw a picture of you & your costume.

5. How are you different and how are you the same as your character?

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# Character Web

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Choose a character from your reading. Write the character's name in the oval. Now fill the connecting boxes with things that you have learned about that character. Be sure to give proof from your reading to support each idea.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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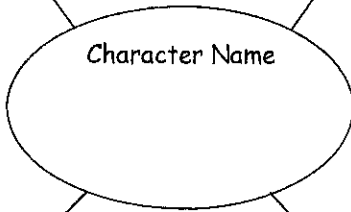
\_\_\_\_\_

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Title:

\_\_\_\_\_



Author:

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Character \_\_\_\_\_

# Character Development Worksheet

1. What is your character's objective *in the play*? In other words, what does he or she want or need?

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2. What does your character want or need *in the scene you are playing*? There will probably be many wants and needs. List them all, and explain when they change.

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3. List at least 10 important ways you are *like* your character.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | f. _____ |
| b. _____ | g. _____ |
| c. _____ | h. _____ |
| d. _____ | i. _____ |
| e. _____ | j. _____ |

4. List at least 10 important ways you are *unlike* your character.

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | f. _____ |
| b. _____ | g. _____ |
| c. _____ | h. _____ |
| d. _____ | i. _____ |
| e. _____ | j. _____ |

5. What is *funny* in the scene you are playing? It may be a line, an action, an unexpected situation.

What will lift the mood of the scene? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What is *true and important* in the scene? What can be learned about human beings and the way they live their lives?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## PLAYWRIGHTS COMMUNICATE CHARACTER THROUGH:

### 1. Looks

- a. Costume
- b. Make-up
- c. Movement/Gestures
- d. Facial Expression
- e. Properties/Accessories

### 2. Talk

- a. Accent/Dialect
- b. Pitch/Inflection
- c. Rate
- d. Volume
- e. Tone Quality

### 3. Behavior

- a. Education
- b. Social Status
- c. Marital Status
- d. Health
- e. Religion
- f. Nationality
- g. Profession
- h. Upbringing
- i. Temperament

On a separate sheet of notebook paper, describe a character you know well: yourself. Include at least one sentence about each element of your character's LOOKS, TALK, and BEHAVIOR. (20 pts.)

Below is one example from each category.

CHARACTER: Mr. Wells

### 1. LOOKS

- c. Movement – I hunch when I sit. I lead with my head when I walk. I have a habit of unconsciously hiking up my pants when I am not doing something. I have good mobility of hands and feet.

### 2. TALK

- d. Volume – My wife says that I talk too loud in the car. I probably have a more resonant voice than most. I would attribute that quality to my stage and voice training experience.

### 3. BEHAVIOR

- a. Education – I attended grade school, junior high school, and high school at a 4A Level District in Leander, Texas. Leander is thirty minutes northwest of Austin. I graduate in the top 10% in a class of approximately 400 students. I majored in Communication Education in college. I minored in English.

# Character Grid

Instructions: Fill in the boxes to show what you have learned about characters from your reading.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Character: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What the character says and thinks	How the character looks	What the character does	What others in the story say and think about the character

Character: \_\_\_\_\_

What the character says and thinks	How the character looks	What the character does	What others in the story say and think about the character

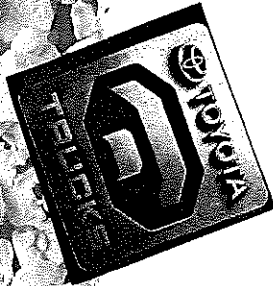
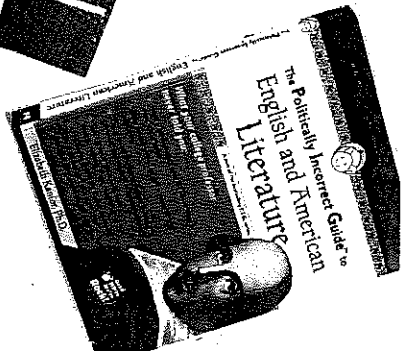
# MEMBERS



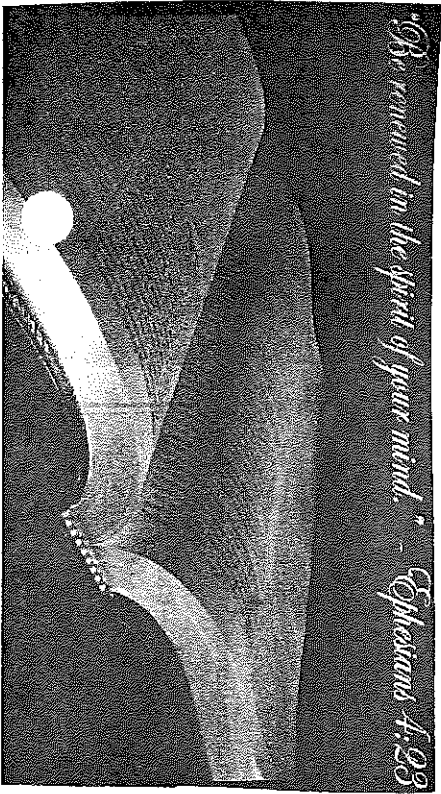
VOLUNTEER



SKILL



*"Be removed in the spirit of your mind" - Ephesians 4:23*





## CHARACTER

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Interesting characters are essential ingredients in a good play. One good definition of plot is "character in action," because the drama on stage is usually caused by the specific characters involved.

Unlike a character in a novel, a character in a play is revealed through a limited number of scenes. The playwright must be economical in the way a character's identity is communicated, with a minimum of dialogue, gestures, and actions.

The nature of a character is communicated to the audience in many ways. The first is *appearance*, how a character looks and moves on stage.

The second is how a character *talks* and what she says.

The third is how a character *behaves*. Audiences study the choices a character makes in dramatic situations, evaluating how the character relates to others and what others say about her.

The most interesting characters are people of contradictions. Realistic characters sometimes make conflicting choices, just as people do in real life. A well-drawn character has a background of feelings, beliefs, needs, hidden hurts, and unsatisfied desires that are hidden to the other characters and sometimes to the character herself.

Part of the excitement of drama is the slow process by which the audience sees deeper and deeper into a character, understanding the secret needs that motivate the character's actions as the play unfolds.

### Reading Review

1. What strategies does a playwright use to communicate character on stage?
2. Explain the role that contradiction plays in creating an interesting dramatic character.
3. Why are the "hidden" aspects of a character interesting to the audience?

### Follow-Up Activities

1. Describe an interesting character from stage, screen, or TV. Be sure to discuss how your character looks, moves, talks, and behaves. Does your character show any interesting contradictions or hidden needs that motivate his or her behavior?
2. If you were a playwright, how would you portray yourself (or your best friend) as a character in a play? What important characteristics would you include? How would you communicate them to an audience?

## DESCRIBE A CHARACTER YOU KNOW WELL: YOU!

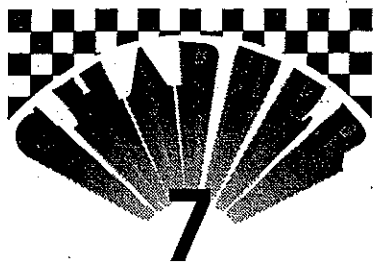
Please answer in complete sentences for each question. Answer on your own paper.

1. Looks
  - a. Costume – What clothes do you like to wear?
  - b. Make-up – What do you apply to your face daily or annually?
  - c. Movement/Gestures – What gestures do you tend to do?
  - d. Facial Expression – What facial expressions are you known for?
  - e. Properties/Accessories – What items do you always carry with you?
  
2. Talk
  - a. Accent/Dialect – Where are you from? What is the regional dialect?
  - b. Pitch/Inflection – What gets you excited and makes you shout?
  - c. Rate – How fast do you talk?
  - d. Volume – Do people tell you to be quiet? How loud are you?
  - e. Tone Quality – Describe the tone that is most like your own?
  
3. Behavior
  - a. Education – Describe your schooling experience – elem., middle, etc.
  - b. Social Status – How would you describe who you hang with?
  - c. Marital Status – Are you dating or interested in someone right now?
  - d. Health – Do you have a chronic illness? Are you allergic to anything?
  - e. Religion – What is your belief system?
  - f. Nationality – What is your race?
  - g. Profession – Do you have a part time job? How do you earn your keep?
  - h. Upbringing – Tell me about your family? Who raised you?
  - i. Temperament – How would you describe your personality?

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## What's on Your Mind?

**Directions:** Add color, words, and pictures to illustrate your character's thoughts, personality, wants, and needs. Refer to your character analysis sheet for ideas.

