

CHARACTERIZATION

Direct and Indirect

HMS 6th grade Language Arts Department

Direct Characterization

- ✓ Direct characterization occurs when the narrator explicitly describes a character.

Ex: Kat was popular but snobby.

Tim was a nice, honest boy.

Explicit: Clearly stated

Indirect Characterization

- ✓ Indirect characterization occurs when character traits revealed through actions, words, or choices of the characters. It can also occur through the characters interactions with other characters. Indirect characterizations are implicit.

Ex: Jess left the pizza crust on her floor.

Tim helped old Ms. Jones with her bags.

Implicit: not clearly stated, implied

Review

- ✓ **Direct characterization:** the narrator explicitly describes the character.
- ✓ **Indirect characterization:** character's traits are revealed through their actions, words, feelings, or interactions

Practice

1. On each of the following slides, read the passage.
2. Identify the **indirect character trait** used in the passage.
3. Explain your answer.

Example

The facilitator was teaching the learners about characterization. Kyle let out a big yawn. “Indirect Characterizations are implied, not explicitly stated,” lectured Mr. Morton.

Discuss in groups/with a peer and decide on the correct answer, provide evidence to support your answer.

Possible Answer

Answer: Kyle is bored or tired.

Evidence to support: He yawned,
which shows he's tired.

More Review Passages

After class, Toni asked Dana a question, “I’m sorry, Dana, but I my little brother was sick and my parents made me stay home and watch him yesterday. Can I see your reading notes?” Toni huffed and rolled her eyes. She replied to Dana, “Uh, I don’t know where they are right now.”

Discuss possible answers with a partner or group.

More Review Passages

While playing football with his friends, Evan overthrew the ball and accidentally broke his mom's picture window. Nobody was home, but all of the other boys soon found excuses to leave. When Evan's mom came home, she asked what had happened. Evan looked her in the face and said, "A bird smashed into the window, Mom."

Discuss possible answers with a partner or group.

More Review Passages

Tevin was in excruciating pain from football practice. He had been getting terrible sleep ever since training started. He could hardly sleep ten minutes before the pain caused him to roll around. His body was telling him to quit the team, but Tevin refused to hear it. He had one goal in mind: to make the team. Tevin wouldn't stop until his body stopped him.

Discuss possible answers with a partner or group.

More Review Passages

Tim was walking around the store when he bumped into a display of soup cans, knocking them all over. Tim bought two cartons of eggs then got hit by the automatic door on the way out. It almost broke the eggs. Tim let out a sigh of relief. While walking through the parking lot, Tim tripped over the curb and landed on the eggs, getting them all over his shirt.

Discuss possible answers with a partner or group.

More Review Passages

Kim had a bunch of outfits and accessories. It took her forever to decide which combination might impress Kevin. She called her sister several times for advice. Still, Kim could not decide on the right outfit to wear.

Discuss possible answers with a partner or group.

THE END

You have completed the review, please note the work on your review and retest form if you need to retest on the characterization standard.