**Characterization**

Characterization is the process by which a writer presents a character, revealing who they are, to making them memorable and real for the reader. There are two types of characterization:

1. **Direct Characterization-**character is described by the author, the narrator, or another character *(told).*
2. **Indirect Characterization-**a character’s traits are revealed through action and dialogue *(shown).*

**Methods Used to Develop Characterization**

1. *Dialogue (Speech):* What the character says, how they say it and the tone it leaves.
2. *Thoughts:* The goings on inside a character’s head, their private thoughts and feelings.
3. *Actions:* A character’s actions teach the reader (and other characters in the story) about the character. Their reaction to an action or incident is equally important.
4. *Physical Description:* Anything physical about the character.
5. *Reactions of Others:* How other characters respond to or treat the character. Reactions include verbal responses, as well as physical and emotional treatment.
6. *Relationships:* How a character’s relationships with others are made, developed, and ultimately end.
7. *Name Analysis:* Analysis of a character’s name, looking more closely at its meaning and the reason behind its selection (not all names have significance).

**Characterization Documentation**

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| **Type and Method of Characterization** | **Example** | **Explanation** |
| *Direct or Indirect-**Method of Development* | *Direct Quote**Paraphrased Quote* | *How does your choice reveal the character and make them real?* |
| Direct Characterization-Action | “He reached up and took Colonel Graff’s hand and walked out the door with him” (26). | Card reveals that Ender is a little boy with regular little boy fears. Like all children he needs the support and helping hand of an adult is a scary situation. |
| Indirect Characterization-Ender’s Thoughts | “They think I’m smiling at their joke, thought Ender. But I’m smiling at something much funnier” (29). | Through Ender’s mental dialogue we see that he is different than the other boys, perhaps more creative. |

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