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Define direct characterization in a sentence

Characterization is the act of creating and describing characters in literature. Characterization includes both descriptions of a character's physical attributes and character's personality. The way the characters act, think and talk also adds to their characterization. There are two subsets of the definition of characterisation: direct and indirect characterisation. We will explore this distinction in depth below. Direct versus indirect characterization Direct characterization, also known as explicit characterization, consists in the fact that the author tells the audience is a character. A narrator can give this information or a character in the story can do it. Examples of direct characterization would be: Bill was short and fat, and the bald spot was widening with each passing year. 'Jane is a cruel person,' she said.' Indirect characterization, on the other hand, consists in the fact that the author shows the audience what kind of person a character is through the character's thoughts, words and deeds. This requires the audience to make inferences about why a character would say or do these things. This type of characterization is also known as the default characterization. While it takes more time to develop a character through indirect characterization, it often leaves a deeper impression on the reader than direct statements about what a character is like. Here are some examples of indirect characterization: Bill sighed as he looked at the offer of a gym member. You should join. But just thinking about her made sweat beads collect at the top of his bald spot. As Jane walked past the box labeled 'Free Chickens', she looked around, then gave her a quick shot. I yawned, trying to keep my eyes open at the meeting. I arrived for my cup of coffee and was disappointed to realize it was empty. Common examples of characterization While the concept of characterization is primarily a literary device, we use characterization in many everyday situations as well. Consider the following situations: Online dating sites: This is a main place for direct characterizations of ourselves. We put pictures and data to describe our appearance, and we will answer questions and write essays to describe our personalities. Cops have found a new idea of who the culprits might be. This type of characterization is generally based on physical attributes, although detectives may also try to understand the psychology of a criminal to catch him or her. Obituaries and eulogies: When a person died, their loved ones characterization to give a sense of what kind of person he or she was. This is primarily to show personality. The meaning of characterisation in As a literary tool, the characterization has been around for about five hundred years. That may sound like a long time, but given that ancient Greek tragedies date back several thousand years, characterization is a relatively recent development. This is because older forms of literature, including ancient Greek tragedies, were much more focused on the plot. Characterization grew in popularity as researchers began to see psychology as a scientific field, especially since the 19th century. People have become more interested in why people do things and how they react instead of what happens. Literature reflected this change. However, this does not mean that the works written before the 19th century had a lack of characterization. William Shakespeare writing in the late 16th and early 17th centuries created some of the most psychologically complex characters. It is simply a much more integral part of the storytelling process now. Works of low-characterization literature are often criticized for having stock characters, flat characters, unsized characters, poorly drawn characters and so on. Saying that the characters of a book are unbelievable is one of the worst criticisms he has made on this day in the age. Therefore, the authors use characterization to bring their characters into the flesh, to show the motivations of the characters, and to make the reader have empathy with the characters. Examples of characterization in the literature e.g. #1 Cathy was chewing a piece of meat, chewing with her front teeth. Samuel never saw anyone chew like that before. And when she swallowed, her little tongue circled around her lips. Samuel's mind repeated: Something –something – cannot find what it is. Something's wrong, and the silence was hanging on the table. (East of Eden by John Steinbeck) In John Steinbeck's East Eden, Cathy is a really bad character. Steinbeck says this directly often over and in many different ways. However, in this example of characterization, Steinbeck opts instead for a cooler image. Cathy seems to eat meat just like a snake. Indirect characterization forces the reader to understand this passage as an allusion to the snake in the Garden of Eden, thus inducing Cathy's deep-rooted sins. Example #2 First, he said, if you can learn a simple trick. Scout, you get along much better with all kinds of people. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view [...] until you get in his skin and walk into it. (To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee) quote from Atticus Finch in Lee's Harper's To Kill a Mockingbird is another example of indirect characterization. Atticus is a very compassionate character who is able to expand his empathy to every member of the community. I Have about the true nobility of his character through his actions, in the defense of a man no one else will believe that he is innocent, and by the power of his words. This quote quite famously captures his empathy facility. Example #3 my mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun; Coral is much redr than her red lips; If the snow is white, why then her breasts are dun; If the hairs are hairs, black hairs grow on her head. Characterization is the process by which an author reveals a character's personality. It is a gentle pursuit of a woman's confidence or a man's brilliant mind. We see this in plays, novels, TV shows, movies, poems, and any other format that involves creating a character. Examples of characterization appear in a character's thoughts, words, facts, appearance, and more. Writers reveal a character's personality through direct characterization, indirect characterization, or a combination of both. You will see that in direct characterization, the author comes out directly with it and the character labels in a certain way. Indirect characterization is much more subtle. With direct characterization, the author will tell you in precise words is the character. For example: The confident woman strode in the pub and took seamus, usually shy by surprise. Despite his generally reserved nature, he had the courage to offer him his place at the bar. When we read this, we immediately know that the female main character can walk around in a room without a drop of fear. We also imagine that the male lead role is usually shy, keeping it to himself. There is no assumption about their inherent nature. Use these examples of direct characterization in literature to help you understand the concept even better: Mr. Bingley was handsome and gentlemanlike; he had a pleasant face, and easy manners, unaffected. The pride and prejudice of Jane Austen Everyone knew Bagheera, and no one cared to cross his path, because he was as cunning as Tabaqui, as bold as the wild buffalo, and as reckless as the wounded elephant. The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling All about him was old, except for his eyes and were the same color as the sea and were cheerful and undefeated. The old man and the sea of Ernest Hemingway had a long chin and large teeth, quite prominent, covered, when not speaking, of his full, curved lips. Old, young? Thirty? Fifty? Fifty-five? It was hard to tell. Brave New World by Aldous Huxley He was the sun most always – I mean he made it seem like good weather. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain Indirect Characterization is more subtle. It's not something we immediately learn in a short passage. There are five ways a writer could reveal the character indirect: Actions - behaves the character? Does it have rashes and spontaneous? Or, is he or she quiet, reserved, reserved, slow to make any kind of change? Effects - is the character received by other characters? Do people gravitate towards him or her? Or, does it scatter in the wind when they know they're making their way to them? Show - is the character described? Is she well polished, wearing the best dresses? Or, are they more free-spirited, taking on the mood of a hippie? Speech - What type of dialogue is created for the character? Does it stutter and stutter in sheep's tones? Or, are they royals, command the attention of the room whenever they speak? Thoughts - If an author is omniscient, or able to relay the thoughts of each character, then we can learn a lot about character through their thoughts. They go home and get angry with the fire? Do they worry and wonder over their days, hoping that they have not offended anyone and gathered the affection of all? Indirect characterization most often occurs during a longer work of fiction, rather than in a single paragraph or section. However, these shorter examples of indirect characterization in literature will help you see this type of characterization works in practice: Cathy chews a piece of meat, chewing with the front teeth. Samuel never saw anyone chew like that before. And when she swallowed, her little tongue circled around her lips. Samuel's mind repeated: Something –something – cannot find what it is. Something's wrong, and silence hangs on the table. East of Eden by John Steinbeck's First, he said, if you can learn a simple trick, Scout, you get along much better with all sorts of people. You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view [...] until you get in his skin and walk into it.' To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee As a literary device, characterization is probably one of the most powerful. Writers use similes, metaphors, impersonation, and more to build a story. But, what is a story without a main character? As such, characterization is just another color of paint on their palette. As important as mood or theme, the well-planned characterization will build a robust foundation for everything that will come. Let's look at some examples of characterization. These details a simple smattering of the multitude of ways in which a character can be described. Characterization of a good girl: She knelt slightly down and stretched out her hand to help her boyfriend return to her feet after falling on the ground. Characterizing a rich man: He cleaved from the heart before puffing deeply on the Cuban cigar, briefly looking at his Rolex. He told his driver he'd be here at any moment, then threw the rest of the whiskey away. Characterizing a cheap man: Look here, he said. I'm not going to take anything from anybody. I round the block a few times, and I'm no one's door mat. I I care who you are or where you're from. I don't want to hear what you have to say. Characterizing someone anxious: he twisted his fingers in his hands and bit his lip. Her leg shook quickly, and her eyes were thrown from side to side. Characterizing an embarrassed man: He dropped his eyes to the floor, and his face burned purple red. His shoulders hunched over, and he purses his lips, clearly trying to fight back tears. Characterizing someone apologizing: Her eyes asked him to understand what she was trying to say, her breathing slowly in frequency, but intensely with each inhale. Her trembling mouth revealed the shame she had for what she did. Characterizing someone cheap: frowning and nose-wrinkled, Bill cringed when he saw the check for dinner. Clearly dissatisfied with the cost of his eggs, slate, donuts, and coffee, he opened his wallet, threw a dollar at random on the table for tip, and went to the counter to pay for the meal. Characterizing someone dirty: She answered the door in a hurry, putting her earrings on while telling me to come in for a moment. We entered what appeared to be an abandoned war zone. Clothes and shoes were scattered on the floor. Dirty dishes with hardened fettuccine noodles were piled on the table while magazines were randomly spread on the floor. Characterizing someone grateful: She couldn't stop telling him how much she appreciated the little loan he was offering him. Hugs, cheek kisses, and an offer to make dinner followed, with gratitude suing from her every word and movement. Characterizing someone careless: After arriving 25 minutes late for the date, he proceeded to honk from his car, forcing me to scamber over the ice-covered steps in my stilettoes. Characterizing someone skilled: He pulled the arrow back onthe bow until it wouldn't go ahead. When he left his hand, the arrow slipped gracefully through the air and into the center of the target. Of course, these examples do not cover every type of character trait. The people we meet in our favorite books are often as complex as the people we meet in our daily lives. I'm multifaceted. Sometimes they're kind and generous. Other times, they're jealous and petty. If the author has created a strong character, we will learn that there are several layers, and they will unfold with the greatest of intrigue. This is one of the most essential elements of great stories and novels, and it is what makes some books a joy to read. B.A. English