

Dynamic vs. Static Characters: Charting Change

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Student will be able to distinguish between dynamic (changing) and static (unchanging) characters by tracking a character's traits across the story.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- The current book/story
- paper
- ruler
- colored pencils

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Using a ruler, draw a horizontal timeline across a piece of paper from 'Beginning' to 'End.'
2. Mark 4 points along the timeline representing different points in the story (beginning, two middle points, end).
3. At each point, write one word describing your main character's attitude, belief, or behavior at that moment.
4. Connect the points with a line, and use a different color to mark the moment you think caused the biggest change (or draw a flat line if the character does not change).
5. Label the character as 'Dynamic' or 'Static' at the top of the page and underline your reasoning.

QUESTIONS

1. **Is your character dynamic or static? What evidence from your timeline supports this?**
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2. **What single event on your timeline caused the biggest change (or, if static, what event tested the character but didn't change them)?**
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3. **Why do many stories rely on a dynamic main character to deliver their theme?**
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4. Name one static (unchanging) character from a book or movie you know and explain why they stay the same.
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