

Character Development

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will create a detailed original character profile and portray that character's voice, posture, and mannerisms in a brief improvised moment.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Paper
- pencil or pen
- colored pencils (optional)
- index card

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. On paper, create a character profile sheet listing: name, age, one strong want/goal, one fear, and one physical habit or quirk (e.g., taps foot, twirls hair).
2. Draw a quick sketch or write a short physical description of your character (clothing, posture, one distinguishing feature).
3. Stand up and walk across the room 'in character,' using the posture and quirk from your profile, three separate times.
4. In character, improvise answering three questions a family member asks you (e.g., 'What's your name?' 'What do you want most right now?' 'What are you afraid of?') using a voice different from your own.
5. On the index card, write one line of dialogue your character would say that reveals their want or fear without stating it directly.

QUESTIONS

1. What are the four required parts of your character profile?
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2. How did adopting your character's physical quirk change the way you moved or spoke?
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3. Write the line of dialogue you created that hints at your character's want or fear indirectly. Explain what it reveals.

4. Why do playwrights and actors give characters a specific 'want' driving each scene?
