

How does a writer reveal information about character?

When you are creating a character in a piece of fictional writing, you want to make them seem realistic. There are 5 key ways you can do this...

Thought – *I wondered whether anybody would notice that whilst I seemed confident, I was terrified on the inside.*

Action – *He paced back and forth, wildly shaking his head from side to side as if he was having an argument with an imaginary person.*

Dialogue – *“I can’t take it anymore!” I yelled into the darkness.*

Narration – *Jacob seemed to grow smaller by the second as the bullies’ cruel words stabbed at him like sharp daggers.*

Reaction of others – *As he entered the class, his so-called friends stared at him, whispering and pointing – it seemed everybody knew what he had done.*

Can you identify the 5 strategies for creating a realistic character in the passage below?

The door swung violently, making an awful clashing sound as the wall repelled the hefty object. In stepped Agatha or Ms Hines as she was professionally known. A hush fell upon the class as she walked gracefully towards them, each minute step, a calculated and purposeful manoeuvre.

“Good Morning young academics!” the words snaked out of her mouth as she over emphasised the ‘s’ sound.

Agatha was determined to change the reputation and the future for 10S and if that meant paying the odd year 11 to spread a few rumours about how strict she was and how in her previous school she’d got cameras secretly installed in her classrooms so she could see absolutely every act of unfocused, rebellious or uncooperative behaviour, she would do it.

“Today we will be studying the writings of a poet, renowned for his anti-war stance and poignant, graphic retellings of the horrors of life in the trenches...” Anthea giggled to her self when she heard the words leaving her lips (if truth be known she was raised on the streets of Liverpool and only managed such perfect pronunciation from watching repeats of Mary Poppins!).

“Ms, you speak so posh.” A student mumbled from the back of the room.

Like a whip she turned on them. “Explain yourself, Boy!”

“No, Miss, I mean, it’s good... I like it, it’s just - I don’t know what half those big words mean like.” He quickly stammered eager to rectify his mistake and avoid the wrath of Ms Hines.