



Characterisation in Clockwork

How do writers craft character?

We have looked at how Philip Pullman has created characters in *Clockwork*. Now we want to do this for ourselves...

What are the ingredients of a character? (think back to our earlier discussions)

- Physical aspects
 - Height, eyes, hair, clothing, how they move...
- Character traits
 - Kind or empathetic, imposing and confident, nervous but brave, humorous etc.
- Their actions and the choices they make
 - Do they make selfish choices?
 - Do they do things for others?
 - Are they adventurous in their actions?

The writer's craft

- We also discussed how writers use lots of different techniques in order to craft a character.
- What should we try to use when crafting our own character?
- Sentence types
- Sentence lengths
- Semantic Fields
- Choice of nouns / verbs / adjectives / adverbs
- Punctuation
- Connotations
- Language techniques

Prince Florian

- Prince Florian is mentioned throughout *Clockwork*, but, he is never really developed as a character; he does not speak nor are his feelings or emotions discussed in any detail.
- We are going to try and characterise Prince Florian ourselves.
- You will need to think about what sort of a person you want prince Florian to be and how you will 'craft' him using the techniques and ingredients we have discussed.
- In groups create a mind map of ideas for Florian's character.

Becoming a writer

- Now that you have all of your ideas think about how the ingredients and techniques can be used in order to craft Prince Florian's character.
- E.g. if you want him to be an angry character maybe he will use short and exclamatory sentences punctuated with exclamation marks. You may use a semantic field that shows anger, which might include words such as: fury, irritation, vexed, irked, etc.

Have a go!

- In your groups use your planning to write your characterisation of Prince Florian.

Extension analysing our own writing.

- If all groups have finished their own characterisation of Prince Florian they can swap their work and analyse each other's.

- How has this group crafted the character of Prince Florian?

Consider how they have used techniques to influence you as a reader:

- Sentence types
- Sentence lengths
- Semantic Fields
- Choice of nouns / verbs / adjectives / adverbs
- Punctuation
- Connotations
- Language techniques