

Write a Character Analysis

Standards:

3. Create and develop appropriate characters in a variety of performance situations

Task:

When preparing for a role, actors definitely do their homework. Whether the role is historical or fictional, actors must delve into the script and discover the heart, mind, and soul of a character.

They do this in primarily 3 ways:

1. Textually – extracting all possible information from the text. What does the playwright directly say about the character? What do other characters say about a character? What does the character say about themselves?
2. Inferentially – using all textual clues to infer information about a character. What does the playwright imply about a character? What do a character's actions imply about that character? How do other characters react to a character? What does that imply?
3. Interpretively – adding necessary information that is not textually based, but remains consistent with collected character knowledge. What else does an actor need to know in order to “flesh out” the character? What was the family of the character like? What happened in the past to make him/her act this way? What baggage does the character bring to the scene? What educational background? These questions could go on forever; however, it is important to discern which questions are appropriate and important to ask in any given situation.

Write a character analysis of your character. It should cover all 3 aspects of analysis and conform to the course writing standards. Length should be approximately 2-3 pages.

Rubric:

		Inadequate (1)	Developing (2)	Proficient (3)
Textual	X 2	Inconsistent with script	Consistent with script but may not use all direct evidence	Consistent with script and uses all direct evidence
Inferential	X 2	Inconsistent with script	Mostly consistent with script but does not use all textual clues	Consistent with script and uses all textual clues
Interpretive	X 2	Inconsistent with characters and scene; unbelievable and random	Mostly consistent with characters and scene; most interpretations are believable	Consistent with characters and scene; believable
Organization	X 1	Organization lacking and unclear	Organization is apparent but may be unclear at times	Effectively organized
Conventions	X 1	Uses few conventions correctly or appropriately	Uses most conventions correctly and appropriately	Uses all conventions correctly and appropriately