

Mastering Character Description

Bring your characters off the page and into the reader's imagination!

- How can you use an expanded noun phrase to add extra detail to a character's physical appearance, such as their hair or clothing?
- Why is it important to use strong, precise verbs instead of generic ones to show a character's actions?
- Can you use a simile to compare a character's movement to something in nature, like a falling leaf or a rushing river?
- How does describing a character's internal thoughts and feelings help the reader understand their personality better?
- Why should you focus on a character's 'quirks' or unique habits to make them feel more like a real person?

Did you know? Did you know? Authors often use 'Show, Don't Tell' to describe characters. Instead of saying a character is 'nervous', you could describe them 'fiddling with their silver buttons' or 'tapping their foot rhythmically against the dusty floor'. This helps the reader feel the emotion rather than just being told about it!

Key vocabulary: Expanded noun phrase · Adverbial · Figurative language · Personification · Simile · Metaphor · Personality traits