**LESSON PLAN FOR WEEK 3 ENDING 27TH JANUARY, 2023**

SUBJECT LITERATURE-IN- ENGLISH

TOPIC: AFRICAN PROSE

SUB TOPIC: CHARACTERISATION

DATE: 24TH JANUARY, 2023

DURATION: 40 MINUTES

PERIOD: 3RD

CLASS: S.S. 1

NUMBER IN CLASS: 2

AVERAGE AGE: 14

SEX: MIXED

**Learning Objectives**: By the end of the lesson,the students should be able to;

I Explain the meaning of character/characterization.

Ii. List the major characters in the novel and their role in the novel.

Iii. State the minor characters and their roles in the novel.

**Rationale/Importance**: To enable the students gain more knowledge of the novel with specific reference to characterization and character development.

**Previous Knowledge:** they have been taught setting, plot, style, etc.

**Instructional Resources:** a copy of the novel “ second class citizen by Buchi Emecheta, etc.

**Reference Materials:** Exam Focus Literature by …

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| **STEPS** | **TEACHER’S ACTIVITIES** | **STUDENT’S ACTIVITIES** | **LEARNING POINT** |
| Step 1 | The teacher defines characterisation to be;  Characterization is a writer’s tool, or “literary device” that occurs any time the author uses details to teach us about a person. This is used over the course of a [story](https://literaryterms.net/story/" \o "Story)in order to tell the tale.  Aristotle first defined characterization in the 15th century, speaking of the importance of [plot](https://literaryterms.net/plot/" \o "Plot)over [character](https://literaryterms.net/character/" \o "Character)in *Poetics*, “[Tragedy](https://literaryterms.net/tragedy/" \o "Tragedy)is representation, not of men, but of [action](https://literaryterms.net/action/" \o "Action)and life.” What he means here is that “tragedy” (or drama, meaning a story) is not centered on the thoughts, and histories, and dreams of the [characters](https://literaryterms.net/character/" \o "Character). The story is centered on what happens to them (the plot), so writers employ characterization to relay information about those thoughts, histories, and dreams, without drifting away from the action. **Characterization Definition** What is characterization? Here’s a quick and simple definition:  Characterization is the  representation of the traits, motives, and psychology of a character in a narrative. Characterization may occur through direct description, in which the character's qualities are described by a narrator, another character, or by the character him or herself. It may also occur indirectly, in which the character's qualities are revealed by his or her actions, thoughts, or dialogue.  Some additional key details about characterization:   * Early studies of literature, such as those by the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle, saw plot as more important than character. It wasn't until the 15th century that characters, and therefore characterization, became more crucial parts of narratives. * Characterization became particularly important in the 19th century, with the rise of realist novels that sought to accurately portray people.  ****II. Examples of Characterization**** The way a character speaks can inform us of their background and personality, like how educated they are, or what they consider to be important. Even the way other characters speak to and about our characters is a form of characterization. ***Example 1*** In the *Harry Potter*series, Dobby refers to Potter as “the noble Harry Potter,” or “good Harry Potter,” which shows us how the house elf adores the young wizard. It might also be a hint of how Dobby would show affection for other people he admires. ***Example 2*** The way a character reacts to a certain scene also teaches us about them. For example, a character who snubs a beggar has is different from a character who opens their wallet and hands over a wad of hundreds, and still there are more differences from a character who works directly with the homeless population in a city. Characterization can happen in many, many ways. ****III. Types of Characterization********a. Direct/Explicit**** This is clearly informative, and often uses the narrator, the protagonist, or the character themselves. The narration, “Clara had always been a smug, wicked little princess,” is a form of direct or explicit characterization, as is the line of dialogue, “Nicholas will never stop until he gets what he wants! He’s crazy!” ****b. Indirect/Implicit**** This more subtle method of characterization relies on you, the reader, to decide for yourself what it means. Indirect or implicit characterization uses behavior, speech, and appearance, as well as the opinions of other characters. Although other characters can be used to make direct characterization (“Nicholas is crazy!”), they can also be used to make indirect characterization about themselves.  Figuring out what it all means is most of the fun, and it’s the reason fans of certain books, shows, and movies can argue about whether or not a certain character is good, or evil, or in love. They’ve interpreted the characterization differently. ****c. The Importance of Characterization**** Modern storytelling usually emphasizes characterization even more than classical literature. This is because characterization is a major tool in the plot-driven narrative. They can quickly connect the reader to the character, without taking them out of the action. When you’re busy moving characters from one place to another, making things happen to them, it’s clumsy to suddenly stop, get inside of Tom’s head, and drift around with his thoughts for a while. On the other hand, no one is going to truly care about a story if they don’t care about its characters, whether by love or hate or even just amusement or pity.  So, it’s very useful to balance these two areas of development. Plot and character should be developing side by side and rely upon each other, which reflects the human experience. After all, how much of our own “plots” are related to our decisions (our character), and how much of it is totally random and disconnected from what we do? | They pay rapt attention to the teacher. | To enable the students know the meaning of characterisation. |
| Step 2 | **Direct and Indirect Characterization** Authors can develop characterization in two ways: directly and indirectly. It's important to note that these two methods are not mutually exclusive. Most authors can and do use both direct and indirect methods of characterization to develop their characters. **Direct Characterization** In direct characterization, the author directly describes a character's qualities. Such direct description may come from a narrator, from another character, or through self-description by the character in question. For instance, imagine the following dialogue between two characters:  "That guy Sam seems nice."  "Oh, no. Sam's the worst. He acts nice when you first meet him, but then he'll ask you for money and never return it, and eat all your food without any offering anything in return, and I once saw him throw a rock at a puppy. Thank God he missed."  Here the second speaker is directly characterizing Sam as being selfish and cruel. Direct characterization is also sometimes called "explicit characterization." **Indirect Characterization** In indirect characterization, rather than explicitly describe a character's qualities, an author shows the character as he or she moves through the world, allowing the reader to infer the character's qualities from his or her behavior. Details that might contribute to the indirect characterization of a character are:   * The character's thoughts. * The character's actions. * What a character says (their choice of words) * How a character talks (their tone, dialect, and manner of speaking) * The character's appearance * The character's movements and mannerisms * How the character interacts with others (and how others react to the character)   Indirect characterization is sometimes called "implicit characterization." **Indirect Characterization in Drama** It's worth noting that indirect characterization has an additional layer in any art form that involves actors, including film, theater, and television. Actors don't just say the words on the script. They make choices about how to say those words, how to move their own bodies and in relation to other character. In other words, actors make choices about how to communicate all sorts of indirect details. As a result, different actors can portray the same characters in vastly different ways.  For instance, compare the way that the the actor Alan Bates plays King Claudius in **[this play-within-a-play scene](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOGjVUa_iIE)** from the 1990 movie of Hamlet, versus how Patrick Stewart plays the role in the **[same scene](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alfutKH2388)** from a 2010 version. While Bates plays the scene with growing alarm and an outburst of terror that reveals his guilt, Stewart plays his Claudius as ice cold and offended, but by no means tricked by Hamlet's little play-within-a-play into revealing anything. **Round and Flat Characters** Characters are often described as being either round or flat.   * **[Round characters](https://www.litcharts.com/literary-devices-and-terms/round-character)**:**** Are complex, realistic, unique characters. * **[Flat characters](https://www.litcharts.com/literary-devices-and-terms/flat-character)**:**** Are one-dimensional characters, with a single overarching trait and otherwise limited personality or individuality.   Whether a character is round or flat depends on their characterization. In some cases, an author may purposely create flat characters, particularly if those characters will appear only briefly and only for a specific purpose. A bully who appears in a single scene of a television show, for instance, might never get or need more characterization than the fact that they act like a bully.  But other times authors may create flat characters unintentionally when round characters were necessary, and such characters can render a narrative dull, tensionless, and unrealistic. **Character Archetypes** Some types of characters appear so often in narratives that they come to seen as archetypes—an original, universal model of which each particular instance is a kind of copy. The idea of the archetype was first proposed by the psychologist Carl Jung, who proposed that there were twelve fundamental "patterns" that define the human psyche. He defined these twelve archetypes as the:   * Caregiver * Creator * Explorer * Hero * Jester * Lover * Magician * Orphan * Rebel * Ruler * Sage   While many have disagreed with the idea that any such twelve patterns actually psychologically define people, the idea of archetypes does hold a lot of sway among both those who develop and analyze fictional characters. In fact, another way to define round and flat character is to think about them as they relate to archetypes:   * ****Flat characters**** are easy to define by a single archetype, and they do not have unique personal backgrounds, traits, or psychology that differentiates them from that archetype in a meaningful way. * ****Round characters**** may have primary aspects that fit with a certain archetype, but they also may be the combination of several archetypes and also have unique personal backgrounds, behaviors, and psychologies that make them seem like individuals even as they may be identifiable as belonging to certain archetypes.   Good characterization often doesn't involve an effort to avoid archetype altogether—archetypes are archetypes, after all, because over human history they've proved to be excellent subjects for stories. But successful authors will find ways to make their characters not just archetypes. They might do so by playing with or subverting archetypes in order to create characters who are unexpected or new, or more generally create characters whose characterization makes them feel so unique and individual that their archetype feels more like a framework or background rather than the entirety of who that character is. | They listen the more to the teacher. | To avail to the students the knowledge of characterisation. |
| Step 3 | **Why Do Writers Use Characterization?** Characterization is a crucial aspect of any narrative literature, for the simple reason that complex, interesting characters are vital to narrative literature. Writers therefore use the techniques of characterization to develop and describe characters':   * Motivations * History and background * Psychology * Interests and desires * Skills and talents * Self-conception, quirks, and neuroses   Such characteristics in turn make characters seem realistic and also help to drive the action of the plot, as a plot is often defined by the clash of actions and desires of its various characters. | They ask questions . | To acquaint the students with the reasons writers use characterisation. |
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| Summary | Summarizes lesson with the key points. | Copy down lesson in their note books | For reference point while studying. |
| Evaluation | 1. What is characterization? 2. State two importance of characterization. | The students responds positively to the question. | To ensure proper understanding of the topic. |
| Conclusion | The teacher goes round to checktheir notes, to mark and to make corrections where need be. | They effects the corrections made by the teacher. | For appropriateness of work. |
| Assignment | Read more about the novel “Second Class Citizen” by Buchi Emecheta. | They take note of the instruction for appropriate action. | For more understanding of the topic. |



27/01/2023

Principal Head Instructor