

Homework Week 7

Writing Exercise for Character Development: Character Questionnaire

This is one way of developing characters. You can seek out others. However, to get you started, use these questions to develop your characters, and learn how they behave. You can use this questionnaire with your protagonist or any secondary character to learn more about their present state, enrich their backstory, and add to their repertoire of unique gestures and habits.

You may not use all of these questions or all of the information in your story, but you will come to know your characters well before, or while, you write it.

- What is your character's name?
- What is their gender (at the moment)?
- When is their birthday? What is their age at the beginning of your story?
- What do they look like?
- What major experiences have they had in their lives?
- Have they had any traumatic experiences?
- Did they have a bad childhood?
- Or did they have a good childhood suddenly destroyed by a traumatic event?
- What is their general disposition? Are they frowny? Or are they smiley?
- Where do they live?
- What are their thoughts on life?
- Do they have any obsessions?
- Are they in love?
- Do they have any pets?
- Do they have any medical conditions?
- What do they like to do in their spare time? (Do they have any spare time?)
- What are their friends like?
- What are their hobbies?
- What do they eat?
- How do they dress?
- Do they dress to impress?
- Do they dress in a way that is appropriate for their age, or do they dress to look younger or older than they are?
- What are they most embarrassed by?
- Where did they go on their first date? (And with whom?)