Character Analysis

When you are reading a well-written piece of literature, whether it be a five hundred page novel or a short story, a character can come alive in front of you.

Authors develop their characters by describing:
- the character's appearance (how they look)
- the character's thoughts (what they think about)
- the character words (what they say)
- the characters actions (what they do)
- other character's thoughts and reactions to the character

You are going to make a character come to life!

The Steps:
1. First choose a character from your required reading book.
2. Then prepare your character:
   a. Outline the character on a piece of 8½ x 11 paper (example on back).
   b. Now divide the body into four sections. Look at the sample on back. Label the five parts of the body with each of the ways an author can develop their character. Look at the sample on back.
3. Next collect information:
   a. You may use your own words to describe the character or direct quotations, be sure to include the page number.
      i. Example for appearance “Neither boy had on shoes, and their Sunday clothing, patched and worn, hung loosely upon their frail frames.” P. 8
   b. Afterwards, write down your own thoughts about the character somewhere else on the paper.
      i. Example: T.J. isn't really a 'bad' character. He is just confused and makes some bad decisions. I think he is just looking for love and attention, but instead he found trouble. If he had a chance to learn from his mistakes, I think he would.
4. Draw on any extra details either on or around the character.
Reflection

Please respond to the following questions in the space provided.

1. What do you believe was the author's main purpose in writing this story?

2. What was your favorite scene, event, or chapter in the book? Why?

3. Find three words in the book you thought were interesting or had never seen before. Please write down the sentence the word was used in and the page number. Then define the word using a dictionary.

4. On a separate sheet of 8½ by 11 paper draw a new book cover! Be sure to include the title, author, and a picture.