Identifying Character Traits in Literature

INTRODUCTION
You have learned about different character traits and how to identify them in stories that we have read together. In this task, you will: Select a character from the folktale. Write a response/essay that shows how your character’s traits impact the story. Use evidence from the folktale to support your understanding.

- Complete a graphic organizer with text evidence
- Write a response about how the trait affects the ending of this famous folktale

1 Modifications were made to the Task introduction to better reflect task expectations.

You have learned about different character traits and how to identify them in stories that we have read together. In this task, you will choose a character from the text and identify a trait that best fits this character, give evidence from the text to support the trait you picked, and explain how the character trait influences the story’s ending.

SCORING CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERFORMANCE INDICATOR</th>
<th>BEGINNING</th>
<th>DEVELOPING</th>
<th>PROFICIENT</th>
<th>EXPANDING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1 Reading Literature: A</td>
<td>Recall some explicit details of the text.</td>
<td>Identify relevant information to support explicit/implicit ideas. Infer ideas from the text.</td>
<td>Explain and connect information and inferences using supporting evidence from the text.</td>
<td>Synthesize multiple pieces of evidence from the text to explain thinking and inferences drawn from the text.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cite evidence from the text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences. (RL.3-5.1)</td>
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#3 Writing: B
Write informative/explanatory pieces to integrate information. (W.3-5.2)

| Attempts to introduce a topic; writing may include inaccuracies or is incomplete. |
| Introduces the topic, integrates information to partially support a topic and may include a conclusion. |
| Develop a topic by using a clear introduction, organizing ideas logically and providing a conclusion. Integrates relevant information from the text with sufficient detail to support topic. |
| Develops a topic by providing a clear introduction, organizing and conveying ideas through the use of precise language, and includes a well-developed conclusion. Synthesizes multiple relevant and detailed examples from the text to support topic. |

² Modifications were made to the Scoring Criteria to more clearly articulate expectations.

**Performance Indicator:**
Cite evidence from the text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences

**Beginning**
Recall some explicit details of the text.

**Developing**
Identify relevant information to support explicit/implicit ideas. Infer ideas from the text.

**Proficient**
Explain relevant information and inferences using supporting evidence from the text.

**Expanding**
Synthesize multiple pieces of evidence from the text to explain thinking and inferences drawn from the text.
### TASK DIRECTIONS

1. Complete the graphic organizer, independently, to show the traits of the characters in the story. Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.
2. Explain a trait that one of the characters in the story possess. How does this trait affect the way the story turns out? Use detailed text evidence to demonstrate your understanding.

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3 Modifications were made to the Student Directions based upon Educators analysis of student work samples. Educators noted that students did not “show the character traits impact on the story” within their response.

Task Directions:

1. Choose a character from the text and identify a trait that best fits this character.
2. Use a graphic organizer to record the trait(s) of a character and give evidence from the text to support the trait you picked.
3. Write an essay that explains the character’s trait and how it influenced the story’s ending.

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### MATERIALS

- **The Fisherman and his Wife** text
- Student’s copy of annotated text
- Pencil
- Graphic Organizer

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4 Modifications were made to the Materials List.

- Text, *The Fisherman and his Wife*
- Graphic Organizer
- Writing prompt
- Paper or computer-based document
NOTE

CHECKLIST

Your product must include:

- A completed graphic organizer in which you have identified trait(s) of the characters and evidence to support your thinking.
- A written response that explains the trait(s) of a character, how that character’s trait(s) influences the story and evidence to support your thinking.

STUDENT REFLECTION AND/OR GOAL SETTING

Students will complete a 3-2-1 chart to reflect on the work they did. The chart will have students explain 3 things they think they did well, 2 questions they still have, and 1 area they think they should still work on.

5 Modifications have been made to the Student Reflection section to be written as student directions for the reflection.

Student Reflection and/or Goal Setting:

After your essay is scored, you will complete a 3-2-1 chart to reflect on the work you did. In the chart, you will explain 3 things you think you did well, 2 questions you still have, and 1 area you think you should still work on.