

Character Biography

Answer these questions **as your character**:

1. Your full name (if you're not given this information in the text, then you need to create it):
2. Where did you grow up?
3. Where do you live now?
4. Write a brief description of your home and community
5. What significance does your childhood have on how you are today? What kind of impact has it had on your life?
6. Give a brief history of your family. Include names of parents and siblings.
7. List three major events in your lifetime. Make them important.
8. List your friends and best friends (if any).
9. Tell us about your school life.
10. What is your religion, if any?
11. What is your socio economic status? Would you describe yourself as rich, poor, middle class, something else?
12. List your hobbies.
13. List your dreams and aspirations.
14. What is your worst nightmare?
15. How do you view yourself?
16. How do other people view you?
17. What kind of music do you listen to?
18. What is your favorite thing to do?
19. What do you want (what is your "super objective" or overall goal)?
20. What are you willing to do to accomplish this objective?

Ask yourself these questions about your character (you may have more information than your character does, so answer accordingly!):

21. Is my character high or low status?
22. Is my character shy or uninhibited?
23. What is my character's level of intelligence?
24. What are my character's particular problems?

25. Is my character cynical, talkative, rowdy, tense, aggressive, nice, envious, courageous, fearful, or idealistic? List 3 adjectives that best describe your character (pick from these or choose others).
26. How does the title of the play relate to my character?
27. What is my character's main sense of urgency? What strong impulse motivates my character to act?
28. All characters have a secret — what is my character's secret?
29. What rhythm might I associate with my character?
30. What sound might I associate with my character? (examples: sighing, wheezing, grunting, coughing, etc.)
31. What is my character's "master gesture" — a movement, tic, or gesture that they do over and over — that helps define who they are?
32. What is my character's leading center (the place from which a character moves through space — head first? Heart first? Stomach first?)?
33. What color might I associate with my character? Why?
34. What object might I associate with my character? Why?
35. What animal might I associate with my character? Why?
36. What are my character's two primary senses (the two senses they use the most)?
37. Does my character "mask," or cover up, feelings, or behaviors? If so, what does my character mask?
38. Does my character have a sense of humor? Is this sense of humor used in a positive or a negative way?
39. In real life, would I be my character's friend? Why or why not?
40. What is my character's most positive trait?
41. What is my character's status in the world? Does my character have money or power? Is my character's status the same in the world of the play as it would be in the world at large? Is my character's status the same in the monologue I'm performing as it is in the rest of the play?
42. What are my character's major wants or desires?
43. What is my character's major objective for each scene he/she appears in (you'll have to be familiar with the whole play to answer this question)?
44. How does my character go about achieving his or her objective?
45. Has my character changed by the end of the play (you'll have to be familiar with the whole play to answer this question)? If so, in what ways?