

WALT: plan a character description.

Character 1 only

## What Is a Character Description?

What do we learn about Serla from this description?

An **enormous** white wolf was **walking stiffly** towards them on its hind legs. It was **dressed in a breastplate and a red cape**, which swished lazily around the creature's **furred feet**. Its **eyes were a burning orange**, and a glint around its mouth gave the merest suggestion of **sharp fangs**. The wolf stopped directly in front of Cole and gazed down at him, **amber eyes bulging**. "Who is this?" she growled.

Cole held his breath as the wolf prowled around him in a circle, looking him up and down. She had **long, grey streaks in the fur on her nose**.

These words and phrases tell us about Serla's appearance.

# Describing a Character's Appearance

It is important that a character description allows the reader to picture what that character looks like.

Look at King Enk. What features would you want the reader to picture?



wears crown

long hair

thin face

wears nice robes

wears a cloak

slim

# Describing a Character's Appearance

What adjectives would work well to create a picture of the king?  
Think carefully about what is most important for your reader to know.



## Suggestions

# Describing a Character's Appearance

What adjectives would work well to create a picture of the king?  
Think carefully about what is most important for your reader to know.



## Describing a Character Using Your Senses

As well as thinking about what the character looks like, we could consider the other senses.

What would the character sound like? What would they smell like? What would their clothes feel like?

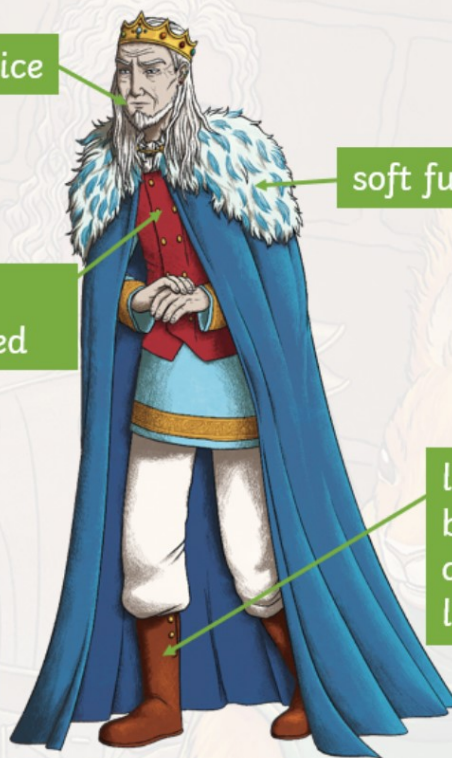
Focus on describing things that will tell the reader something important. What clues can we give that the king is wealthy, powerful and old?

silky voice

soft fur

heavily perfumed

leather boots click clack loudly



# Putting It All Together

When putting all of your planning together, it is important to remember that:

- you don't need to include every single detail of the character, only those which give the reader useful clues;
- you should group similar points together and follow the gaze of your main character;
- varied word choices and sentence structures will help to make the writing engaging;
- speech and action can help you show your reader about the character's personality rather than telling them everything in a long description.



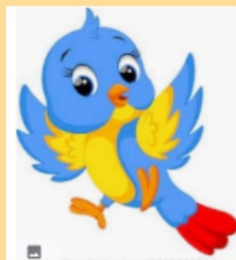
Characters Choose 2 characters for your fable.

Remember to match them to the setting that you have chosen!

Opening  
(Who are the characters?)



Elephant



Bird



Snake



Fish



Choose 1 character

Today we are going to describe one of them in as much detail as we can using adjectives for size, shape, feelings and personality.

Opening  
(Who are the characters?)

Character description help sheet

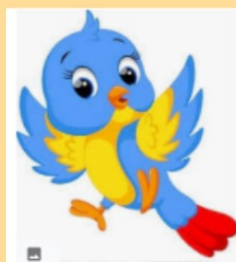
<p><b>Hair:</b></p> <p>Style: cropped, frizzy, dishevelled, knotted, scruffy, tousled, matted, unkempt, greasy, dry, oily, well-kempt, sleek, smooth, combed</p> <p><b>Colour:</b> jet-black, ebony, auburn, chestnut-brown, ash-brown, mousey, golden-brown, blonde, honey-coloured, ginger, rusty, reddish-brown, snow-white, silver-grey</p> <p><b>Lips:</b> cracked, full, luscious, perfect, ruby-red, thin</p> <p><b>Teeth:</b> crooked, gappy, white, straight, rotten</p> <p><b>Nose:</b> beaky, pointy, flat, buttonlike, hooked, small</p>	<p><b>Face:</b></p> <p><b>Skin colour:</b> bronze, caramel, ebony, fair, milky, olive</p> <p><b>Complexion:</b> freckled, pale, peaty, rosy, ruddy, spotty, glowing, sunburnt, wrinkled</p> <p><b>Facial hair:</b> moustache, stubble, beard, bristly</p>	<p><b>Physique:</b></p> <p><b>Slender:</b> gangly, lanky, scrawny, spindly, withered, slender</p> <p><b>Small:</b> patric, slender, slight, slim, thin, trim, willowy</p> <p><b>Big/athletic:</b> beefy, big-boned, chubby, fat, stocky, rough, stubby, strong, lean, muscular, built</p> <p><b>Voice:</b> belting, childlike, cackling, feeble, harsh, hollow, husky, nasal, monotone, sharp, stilted, soothing, squeaky</p> <p><b>Eyes:</b></p> <p><b>Colour:</b> light blue, dark blue, sky blue, emerald-green, jade-green, sea-green, deep-grey, hazel</p> <p><b>Positioning:</b> wide apart, large, bulging, sunken, small, wrinkly, wide set, narrow</p>
<p><b>Positive personality traits</b></p> <p>Confident, cheerful, adventurous, friendly, outgoing, cheerful, obedient, generous, lively, loyal, dependable, patient, elegant, sensitive, open-minded, humble, forgiving, happy, bouey, compassionate, funny, honest, fair, hard-working, intelligent, modest, reliable, supportive, respectful, considerate, polite, dedicated, sincere</p>	<p><b>Negative personality traits</b></p> <p>Dread, disappoited, quick-tempered, stubborn, deceitful, greedy, sarcastic, selfish, ruly, spoiled, moody, ungrateful, irresponsible, envious, lazy, impatient, aggressive, angry, arrogant, annoying, conceited, clumsy, crafty, fickle, feroc, grumpy, inferior, materialistic, obnoxious, uptight, rebellious, shallow</p>	

Adjectives

People	Objects	Comfortable Feelings	Uncomfortable Feelings	Size	Time
adorable	bright	brave	angry	big	ancient
adventurous	clear	calm	anxious	colossal	brief
aggressive	distinct	cheerful	ashamed	enormous	early
annoying	drab	comfortable	awful	gigantic	fast
beautiful	elegant	courageous	awful	great	late
caring	filthy	determined	bewildered	huge	modern
clumsy	gleaming	elated	bored	immense	old
confident	grotesque	encouraged	confused	large	quick
considerate	long	energetic	defeated	little	rapid
excitable	magnificent	excited	defiant	long	slow
glamorous	precious	enthusiastic	depressed	mammoth	slow
grumpy	sparkling	excited	disgusted	massive	swift
happy	spotless	exuberant	disturbed	meagre	young
helpful	strange	fantastic	dizzy	mighty	
important	unusually	fine	embarrassed	mini	
intimidating	valuable	joyful	envious	minuscule	
obnoxious		pleasant	frightened	petite	
talented		relieved	hungry	pung	
			lonely	short	



Elephant



Bird



Snake



Fish

Using the help sheet and the Adjectives word mat - fill in a blank character description sheet for your first chosen.

Then draw your character to show what they look like.

Character description help sheet

<b>Hair</b>	<b>Face</b>	<b>Physique</b>
<b>Style-</b>	<b>Skin colour</b>	<b>Skinny</b>
<b>Colour</b>	<b>Complexion</b>	<b>Small</b>
	<b>Facial hair</b>	<b>Big/ athletic</b>
		<b>Voice</b>
<b>Lips-</b>		<b>Eyes</b>
<b>Teeth-</b>		<b>Colour-</b>
<b>Nose-</b>		<b>Positioning-</b>

Draw your character here

Character description help sheet

<b>Hair</b>	<b>Face</b>	<b>Physique</b>
<b>Style-</b>	<b>Skin colour</b>	<b>Skinny</b>
<b>Colour</b>	<b>Complexion</b>	<b>Small</b>
	<b>Facial hair</b>	<b>Big/ athletic</b>
		<b>Voice</b>

**Lips-**

**Teeth-**

**Nose-**

**Eyes**

**Colour-**

**Positioning-**

Draw your character here

**Positive personality traits**

**Negative personality traits**

Adjectives

People	Objects	Comfortable Feelings	Uncomfortable Feelings	Size	Time
adorable	bright	brown	angry	big	ancient
adventurous	clear	calm	anxious	colossal	brief
aggressive	distinct	cheerful	ashamed	enormous	brief
amusing	drab	comfortable	awful	great	fast
beautiful	elegant	courageous	determined	huge	late
cautious	filthy	determined	bored	immense	modern
clumsy	gleaming	elated	confused	large	old
confident	long	encouraged	deflated	little	quick
considerate	magnificent	energetic	defiant	long	rapid
excitable	precious	enthusiastic	depressed	mammoth	slow
glamorous	sparkling	excited	disappointed	massive	swift
grumpy	spotted	exuberant	distracted	meagre	young
happy	strange	fantastic	dizzy	mighty	
helpful	unsightly	fine	embarrassed	mini	
important	valuable	healthy	envious	minuscule	
intimidating		joyful	frightened	petite	
obnoxious		pleased	hungry	plump	
odd		relieved	lonely	short	

We will look at character 2 in the next lesson