

# Year 9 Characterisation – English Knowledge Organiser

## Expectations and content

### What is this unit about and why do we teach it?

*This unit teaches students to explore characters through literature and by exploring language to create their own characters. The lessons explore vocabulary, describing facial expressions and body movement to hint at character traits and personality. Students should be able to confidently establish their own characters and have a robust understanding of the features that build a character.*

### Revising terminology :

- Characterisation
- Adverbs
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Linguistic devices

### Possible new terminology: :

- Foreshadow
- Characterisation
- Different voices
- Dual narrative
- Flashback for effect
- Mood juxtaposition

## If your child needs support

### Suggested activities to help:

- Consider watching clips of movies (like we did in class) to consider different types of characters and the way archetypes move and interact with others.
- Consider the following questions:
  - *What do people do when they are angry, can you describe it?*
  - *What do characters do when they are anxious? Happy? In love?*
- Read novels and focus on the description of the characters.
- Read and identify what kind of characters appear in a range of movies or series.

## If your child needs extension

### Questions to discuss with your child:

- What are the different things the protagonist could do?
- How could you describe a character who is trying to hide their real personality?
- What examples of brilliant characterisation have you come across?

### Challenging activities to complete:

- Imagine X was a character - how would you introduce them?
- If you could create the perfect prime minister- what would you describe them like?
- Can you come up with different words for 'purple'?

### Suggested further reading:

#### **Miss Havisham - Charles Dickens Great Expectations**

After being abandoned 20 minutes before her wedding by her husband-to-be, had all the clocks stopped at the moment of her betrayal and just continued living in her wedding dress, her house decaying around her, with only one shoe on.

#### **Prince Hamlet, *Hamlet*, William**

Shakespeare The murderous, morose, and probably insane Prince of Denmark is a perfect tragic hero