

WALT create characters.

WILF:

- Summarise characters.
- Write in lines.
- Write stage directions.
- Use colons and brackets where they are needed.
- Perform your work using expression.

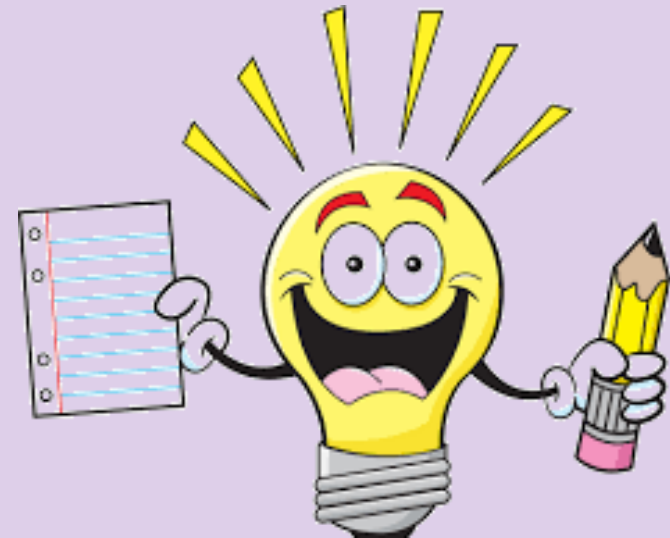


"SPAG-tacular" Capital Letters

Where should you be using them?

Write two sentences that show all the different places capital letters are needed.

Don't forget to use them in your work today.



Characters are a very important part of any story.

In a play, the characters are responsible for bringing the play to life, alongside the actor who plays them.

All plays have a defined set of characters, with a back story.

At the beginning of a play, you have a character list which names each character and then gives you a small amount of background information on them - for example, their name, age, relationship with other characters and where they are from. Sometimes, they will also tell you a little about their personality.

Please follow the image link for the interactive character list for The Tempest (click on the picture).


Note: instead on who's who, this would usually be named Character List or Role Call in a script.

THE TEMPEST

STORY ▾CHARACTERS ▾LANGUAGE ▾STAGING ▾


WHO'S WHO

TEST YOURSELF



PROSPERO

Prospero used to be the Duke of Milan and now rules the island. He is Miranda's father.



MIRANDA

Miranda is Prospero's daughter. She lives on the island with her father.

Creating a character list of your own.

You will only need two or three characters in your play.

You should choose the most important things to know about your character (think about how they should be casted - how the actor should be chosen - in your choices of information).

Characters

Hapi: A crocodile headed human, who is the god of the Nile. He is stronger than everyone else, but gentle and kind.

Cob the Crocodile a.k.a 'beast': A gigantic scaled creature that looks a bit like a crocodile. He is feared by all but Hapi, and is cruel to those he meets. He is dangerous.



Your character list acts a little like a plan for your character. You can use some of the information from the character list to help you decide how they will move, speak and react to things.



I know that Hapi is strong and fearless, but that Beast is cruel and feared.

How would you move if you were strong and fearless? How would you talk? Try it! What about if you were cruel and feared?

Use this to help you write their lines and stage directions.

Consider your vocabulary carefully, choosing words that your character would say and that move the action along. What do you want to happen in the scene?

Example, based on my myth:



Act 4

Scene 3

The Nile riverbank, sunset. There are townspeople surrounding the banks with empty buckets - they look fearful and timid. BEAST is pacing in the water, teeth bared.

Hapi emerges from the reeds.

HAPI: How long do you dare to haunt these waters? Look up. You have done this. Stop now.

BEAST: (Laughing maniacally. To the people) Look how he defies me, he shall soon pay the price for that.

BEAST lunges toward HAPI, expecting him to shrink in fear. HAPI stands tall.

HAPI: (growing taller still) Your simple tricks will not fool me. Retreat and leave these people free.

BEAST: (laughing harder, before stopping abruptly.) Or what, feeble reed?

Your Activity:

Write a character list (or a role call), describing each character briefly.

Then, write at least four lines and four pieces of stage direction for at least two characters, which show their personalities and how they move. To do this, you will need to carefully consider your vocabulary choices (e.g. the verbs, adverbs, adjectives and formality).

Then, act these out with someone in your house (it could even just be a teddy!), then swap. You should try to use voices and different movements for each character.

Watch a this as an example of how to perform:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zsn4h39/articles/z24vjty>



If you'd like to see the type of emotion used by actors, you can watch some of this: <https://safeYouTube.net/w/1sWM>

It is in Shakespearean language, so you may not understand the words as much - don't worry! Listen to the way they are said instead.

