



Design School Lesson Plan

A Character's Journey

Authored by Terri Eichholz (@[terrieichholz](#))

TITLE OF LESSON

A Character's Journey

ACHIEVABLES

- Analyze how complex characters (e.g. those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme. (9th and 10th Grade ELA Common Core)

SUGGESTED LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Understand how a specific character changes throughout a novel.
- Summarize the progression or regression of a character using supporting evidence from the text.

PREPARATION

- Students will each need a computer with an internet connection (students can be partnered up if need be).
- Present the [Canva Quick Guide](#) to onboard your class quickly.
- Students will complete a novel assigned by the teacher.
- Read teacher notes.

SUGGESTED LESSON FLOW

Part I: Choose a Character Who Changed Significantly During the Course of the Story

- Students will work in groups to select a character to analyze.
- Students will fill out a graphic organizer such as [this one](#) to begin to describe the changes that occurred and the text evidence that supports these perceived changes.

Part II: Create Presentation Pages

- After choosing 4-5 examples in chronological order from the story that describe the character's changes, students will create a presentation graphic for each one in Canva. [Here is a sample page](#). The background and/or images should convey the message behind each example.
- As the presentation pages are created, students will need to "Describe and Tag" them, as well as make them Public.

Graphic Design Notes (Use [Tips for Great Design](#))

Before students start designing, run through the Tips for Great Design one-page reference guide. This includes five important tips for creating an effective design.

Part III: One Page Graphic Summarizing the Character's Journey

- Once all of the supporting slides have been created in Canva, students will create a one page summary that reflects the character's evolution throughout the novel. One template that works very well for this is under the "Blog Graphics" design. [This page can be used as an example.](#) The style (colors, font, images) should mirror the tone of the novel.
- For each heading, students will add a link to the Canva presentation graphic they created to support each statement.
- Again, the students will need to Design and Tag this summary page.
- Once the summary page is completed, the page will be downloaded as a PDF. Students can then print the page, as well as share it electronically and clicking on each link to demonstrate the text evidence for the individual sections of the summary.

HOMEWORK/EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Once students have completed this analysis of a character, the teacher may want to assign them to do the "From Page to Stage" Canva lesson to deepen their understanding of the character and the novel.