

Dynamic, Static, Round and Flat Characters

Dynamic: a character that goes through an important change throughout the course of the story

- This change is typically dramatic and alters the way the character is seen
- The change is typically “in” the character; emotions, maturity, insight, commitment, epiphany
- This does not include outside forces changing their fate-Example: winning the lottery
- The results of the change are typically permanent
 - Example: Young Emperor (“Wise Old Woman”)

Static: a character that does not go through any important changes throughout the story

- They are about the same character at the end as they were in the beginning
- Example: if a character is bitter and mean at the beginning and end of the story
- If a character does not mature or grow as a person, then they are static
 - Example: Lord Higa (“Wise Old Woman”)

Round: a well-developed character with many traits and insights into their personality

- You “know” the character inside and out
- You can picture this character in your “mind’s eye”
 - Example: Alfonso (“Broken Chain”)

Flat: a character with very few personality or appearance traits

- Very difficult to form a mental image of these characters
- You never really “get to know” this character except on a very superficial level
 - Example: Frostie (“Broken Chain”)