CHARACTER INTERVIEW WORKSHEETS

THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF PODCAST



COPYRIGHT

© 2024 *The Storyteller's Shelf Podcast*

This content is owned and curated by Jackie Garcia-Morales & Theresa Villarreal, co-founders of *The Storyteller's Shelf Podcast*. This document is for personal use only and is not meant to be shared. Please email us for permission or distribution inquiries.

Contact us at:
TheStorytellersShelfPodcast@gmail.com





WHO ARE WE AT THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF?

WE ARE JACKIE GARCIA-MORALES AND THERESA VILLARREAL, TWO PASSIONATE ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND STORYTELLING. THROUGH OUR PODCAST, WE AIM TO INSPIRE AND EMPOWER AUTHORS AND CREATORS TO CRAFT ENGAGING, MEANINGFUL STORIES FOR YOUNG READERS. OUR MISSION IS TO SHARE VALUABLE INSIGHTS, INDUSTRY TIPS, AND CREATIVE STRATEGIES TO HELP STORYTELLERS BRING THEIR VISIONS TO LIFE.

Our Goals:

- **Support creatives at every stage of their journey, from brainstorming to publishing.**
- **Create a community of like-minded creatives dedicated to crafting impactful stories.**
- **Provide actionable advice to make the creative and publishing processes more accessible.**
- **Break barriers in publishing and help support our community equally.**

Connect with us on social media and stay in the loop for updates, free resources, and event announcements:

Click! These are hyperlinks.

- Facebook Page
- Facebook Group
- Instagram: @TheStorytellersShelfPodcast
- LinkedIn Page
- Website
- Email: TheStorytellersShelfPodcast @gmail.com

Sign up for our mailing list by emailing us to receive free insights and documents designed to boost your creative process and publishing journey. Interested in being a guest speaker or having your book reviewed? Contact us—we'd love to collaborate!

Note: This Character Interview Worksheet was originally created as a freebie for attendees of our Turbocharged Characters Workshop at the 2024 WriteNow A Thon.



THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF
PODCAST

WHAT IS A CHARACTER INTERVIEW?

A character interview is a brainstorming tool designed to help you build dynamic, multi-dimensional characters. By answering detailed questions about your character's personality, history, and motivations, you'll gain a deeper understanding of them. This exercise can enhance character development, ensuring they feel real and relatable to your readers.

While you may not use every detail you uncover in your story, these insights will guide your writing and allow you to think like your character. This understanding helps make your character's decisions, interactions, and actions consistent and logical, enriching your plot.

THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF
PODCAST

THE JOURNEY



TAKE YOUR TIME

Take your time to go through and complete this worksheet for your character. Consider each question carefully, as the insights you gain can transform a one-dimensional concept into a fully realized character with depth and nuance. We've chunked sets of questions into groups to help you take a break and process your character details. Don't rush!

"NATURE DOES NOT HURRY, YET EVERYTHING IS ACCOMPLISHED." -LAOZI.



DEVELOP, GROW

Use it to develop an existing character by adding new layers of detail, or brainstorm for a fresh character who might only exist as a rough idea in your mind. This exercise can also help you uncover hidden aspects of your story and inspire unexpected plot twists.

"DO THE BEST YOU CAN UNTIL YOU KNOW BETTER. THEN WHEN YOU KNOW BETTER, DO BETTER." -MAYA ANGELOU



BE IMAGINATIVE

Treat it as a brain exercise. Let your imagination roam freely—exploring each question can lead to surprising discoveries and unlock your creative potential, enriching your storytelling process. Every moment you consider you've exhausted your creativity or that a persona is too wild: push forward. Keep the momentum of your muse and allow it to lead your to a larger than life detail that will make your character shine.

"LOGIC WILL GET YOU FROM A TO B. IMAGINATION WILL TAKE YOU EVERYWHERE."
- ALBERT EINSTEIN

THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF
PODCAST

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 1

- What is your character's name?
- How old is your character?
- What species or type of character are they? (e.g., human, animal, toy, etc.)
- What is their favorite hobby?
- What is their biggest fear?

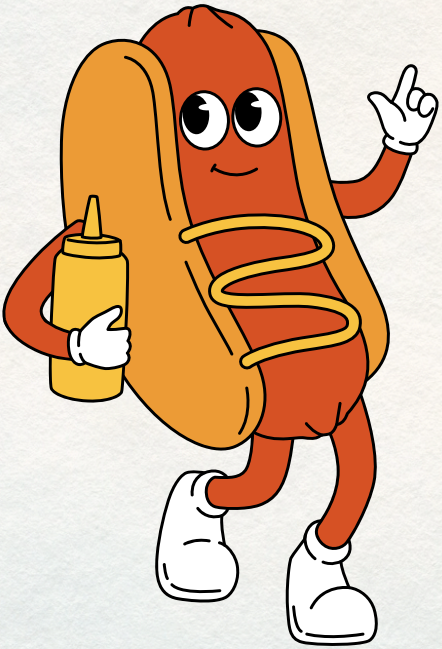
YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 2

- Do they have siblings? If so, do they get along?
- Are they introverted or extroverted?
- What is their most treasured possession?
- How do they show love to others?
- What is their greatest desire or hope?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 3

- How do they react to conflict?
- What do they value most in a friend?
- What is their best talent?
- What annoys them the most?
- Are they generally optimistic or pessimistic?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 4

- How do they handle promises?
- What is their greatest regret?
- What does their daily routine look like?
- What is their relationship with their parents?
- What's their favorite food?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 5

- How do they dress? What's their style?
- What's their favorite season or weather? Why?
- Do they have a favorite childhood memory?
- How do they handle failure?
- Do they believe in any superstitions or have personal rituals?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 6

- Who is their closest friend or confidant?
- What's their biggest accomplishment so far?
- What's their dream for the future?
- How do they handle stress or pressure?
- What's their favorite book, movie, or story?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 7

- Do they have any unusual habits or quirks?
- How do they view themselves? (Self-esteem)
- How do others perceive them?
- What's their relationship with animals?
- How do they celebrate birthdays or holidays?

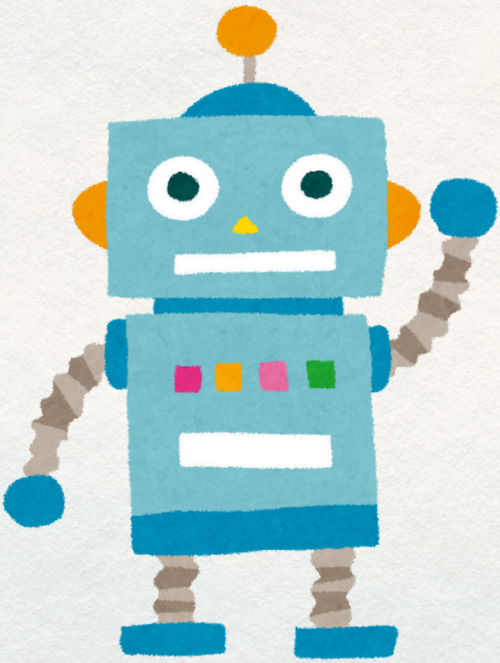
YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 8

- What motivates them to take action?
- What's their most embarrassing moment?
- Do they believe in magic or supernatural forces?
- What's their relationship with technology?
- How do they spend their free time?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 9

- What's their proudest moment?
- What's the one thing they'd never do?
- Who inspires them?
- Do they have any fears they've overcome?
- What's their sense of humor like?

YOUR NOTES:



GROUP 10

- Do they have any recurring dreams or nightmares?
- How do they handle change or surprises?
- What's their biggest secret?
- What's their favorite color? Why?
- How do they want to be remembered?

THANK YOU!
AND KEEP CREATING...

Thank you for taking the time to dive into this Character Interview Worksheet. We hope these questions have sparked your imagination and helped you build deeper, more compelling characters. Remember, every great story starts with characters that feel alive—characters your readers will root for, laugh with, and learn from.

If you enjoyed this resource, please share your feedback with us or reach out with any questions. Don't forget to connect with us on social media or sign up for our mailing list for more tools and insights to support your creative journey.

Keep creating, keep dreaming, and remember—your characters are the heart of your story. Let them shine!

—Jackie Garcia-Morales & Theresa Villarreal

Join our family at:
The Storyteller's Shelf Podcast


THE STORYTELLER'S SHELF
PODCAST