

LO: To know how to create an engaging main character.

On Tuesday, you watched a video from a writer who works for Pixar. He said that main characters need the following...

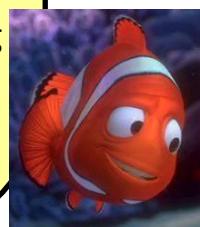
- **A passion**

This is something or someone they care about more than anything in the world. It defines who they are and is crucial for the rest of the story. For Mr. Incredible, it was being a superhero. For Marlon, it was his wife and children. For Woody, it was being the best toy he could be for his owner Andy.

- **A flaw**

Nobody is perfect! Perfect characters will make stories BORING because they will never make wrong choices or challenge themselves to overcome problems. If you can, this flaw should feed into your character's passion.

For example, Marlon loves his wife and children so much that he could sometimes worry too much and be overprotective. Mr. Incredible loved being a superhero so much that he didn't want to share that role with anyone else. Woody had always been Andy's favourite toy and could be a little jealous or insecure at the thought of him favouring someone else.



Today, you will need to create a **character profile** for a main character that you will be writing a story about next week. You will need to think about...

- Their **passions** and **dreams**
- Their **flaws** and **fears**
- Their **appearance**
- Where they **live**
- What an **ordinary day** looks like for them
- Their **mannerisms** (this is how they speak and behave – try and link this to their passions and fears. For example, if I were someone who worried too much about my family I might fidget or bite my fingernails – or fin! If I were a fish.)

I have attached a worksheet that includes all the questions you will need to answer about your character. If you cannot print the worksheet, just create your own on a piece of paper. It doesn't need to be exactly the same, you could have the drawing of your character in the center with the different answers surrounding it.

Idea Help:

Pixar has created so many different characters: rats, robots, toys, monsters, fish, turtles, superheroes, grumpy old men, ants, potato heads, feelings inside of our heads, cars, dinosaurs. The list is endless! Your character could be inspired by one of these or totally made up. It could be a type of character we all know and love like an astronaut or an explorer, or one we're not so familiar with like a blue umbrella.

I have also attached two documents to help you with character traits and mannerisms – take a look!

