

“I Am” Poem

Objective: Understanding character motivation/ Synthesizing character traits

Activity:

Write an “I am” poem for any character from the book you are currently reading. Draw your information from the character’s words and actions in the story. You may choose to use direct quotations where appropriate.

Line 1: Begin with the words “I am.”

Line 2: Write three nouns about which your character has strong feelings.

Line 3: Write a complete sentence about two things your character likes.

Line 4: Begin with three nouns that describe qualities your character appreciates in other people. End the sentence with the words “are important to me.”

Line 5: Write a sentence explaining something positive your character likes about himself or herself.

Lines 6 & 7: Begin a sentence in line 6 in which you show something negative your character sees in himself/herself or in others; finish the sentence in line 7 by showing that out of something bad can come good. Use the word “but” or “however” to link the two ideas.

Lines 8, 9, 10: Write three short sentences explaining things about which your character has strong feelings – likes or dislikes. These do not have to relate to each other or to the previous lines you have written.

Line 11: End the poem with the words, “I am _____.” (Fill in the name of the character you have chosen.)

Example:

- 1.) I am
- 2.) Rain, Forests, and Sunsets.
- 3.) I like long walks and quiet times.
- 4.) Honesty, Humor, and Peace are important to me.
- 5.) I find satisfaction in a job well done.
- 6.) I can be fearsome when my ideas are challenged,
- 7.) But I thrive on intelligent conversation.
- 8.) I love nature and animals.
- 9.) I can be counted on to help.
- 10.) I have strong feelings when a life is threatened.
- 11.) I am _____.