

# ELA Newsletter

Nov 27-Dec 8, 2017

*Important links and information from Mrs. Kirr...*

Class website: [Scholarsrm239.weebly.com](http://Scholarsrm239.weebly.com)

*Further Reading...*

[\*The First Cell Phone: Rules for Responsibility\*](#)

Day/Date

## Class agenda written for students and parents...

Monday  
November 27

Grammar Blast

Review Article of the Week

Nonfiction - Biography

[Trudy's Big Swim](#)

Discuss character traits

Book Talks?

Independent Reading

Focus: What character traits have you been able to infer about the main character?  
What happened or was said that allowed you to infer this?

### CHARACTER FEELINGS are *fleeting*



joyful  
excited  
amused  
hopeful  
satisfied  
proud



sad  
guilty  
hurt  
ashamed  
depressed



miserable  
lonely  
bored



mad  
jealous  
stubborn  
angry



frustrated  
enraged  
furious  
irritated



scared  
rejected  
confused  
discouraged  
embarrassed  
nervous

### CHARACTER TRAITS are *tried & true*

energetic  
playful  
creative  
dreamer  
delightful  
friendly  
extravagant  
daring  
adventurous  
curious  
funny  
humorous  
carefree  
generous  
cheerful

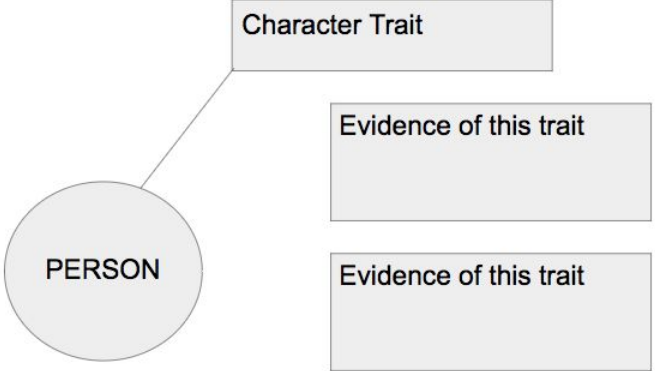
powerful  
faithful  
patriotic  
confident  
bold  
independent  
ambitious  
courageous  
loyal  
intelligent  
optimistic  
valuable  
respected  
hard-working

content  
humble  
pensive  
thoughtful  
resourceful  
respectful  
responsible  
considerate  
cooperative  
serious  
studious  
loving  
trusting  
honest  
sentimental  
nurturing  
thankful

bashful  
timid  
shy  
gullible  
inferior  
apathetic  
lazy

demanding  
hostile  
rude  
conceited  
disagreeable  
selfish  
hateful  
critical  
skeptical  
mischievous  
troublemaker  
cunning  
helpless  
submissive  
gentle  
weak  
dainty  
insecure  
foolish  
anxious  
naive

<p>Tuesday November 28</p>	<p>Grammar Blast Share <a href="#">writing contest information</a> (located on Schoology, too) Book Talks? Nonfiction - Review traits for biographies</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">What We Notice about Nonfiction</h2> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Reference Nonfiction</th><th style="text-align: left; padding: 5px;">Literary Nonfiction</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photos w/captions</li> <li>Lots of information/facts</li> <li>Quotations</li> <li>Call-out boxes</li> <li>Vocabulary (bold-faced or italicized)</li> <li>Information organized by subject</li> </ul> </td><td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Biography:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A narrative account of all or part of someone's life</li> <li>Written by another person</li> <li>Often written about someone famous</li> <li>Includes details of the person's life story that influenced the person as he or she became</li> <li>Used to teach readers about the person, and, usually, to convey the biographer's viewpoint on why readers should know about the subject.</li> </ul> </td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Apply what we know to "<a href="#">Excerpt of 'The Many Masks of Thurgood Marshall'</a>"</p> <p>Independent Reading</p>	Reference Nonfiction	Literary Nonfiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photos w/captions</li> <li>Lots of information/facts</li> <li>Quotations</li> <li>Call-out boxes</li> <li>Vocabulary (bold-faced or italicized)</li> <li>Information organized by subject</li> </ul>	<p><b>Biography:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A narrative account of all or part of someone's life</li> <li>Written by another person</li> <li>Often written about someone famous</li> <li>Includes details of the person's life story that influenced the person as he or she became</li> <li>Used to teach readers about the person, and, usually, to convey the biographer's viewpoint on why readers should know about the subject.</li> </ul>
Reference Nonfiction	Literary Nonfiction				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photos w/captions</li> <li>Lots of information/facts</li> <li>Quotations</li> <li>Call-out boxes</li> <li>Vocabulary (bold-faced or italicized)</li> <li>Information organized by subject</li> </ul>	<p><b>Biography:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A narrative account of all or part of someone's life</li> <li>Written by another person</li> <li>Often written about someone famous</li> <li>Includes details of the person's life story that influenced the person as he or she became</li> <li>Used to teach readers about the person, and, usually, to convey the biographer's viewpoint on why readers should know about the subject.</li> </ul>				
<p>Wednesday November 29</p>	<p>Quick Write (with model first)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Quick Write</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Write today's date and the heading "Biography" in your writer's notebook.</li> <li>2. Think of a person who is inspiring to you. This could be someone you know personally or someone you know because they are famous.</li> <li>3. Begin writing a biography about this person. Things to consider include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Who is this person and what do they do?</li> <li>-What character traits do you see in them? How do they demonstrate those traits? (Write these so that they're inferential, not literal.)</li> <li>-What events have influenced this person's life? How has the time period been influential, if at all?</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>Nonfiction - Author's Point of View with <a href="#">Trudy's Big Swim</a></p> <p>Independent Reading</p>				
<p>Thursday November 30</p>	<p>Nonfiction - Apply what we know to "<a href="#">Excerpt of 'The Many Masks of Thurgood Marshall'</a>"</p> <p>Quick Write</p>				

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Quick Write</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Look for the heading "Biography" in your writer's notebook (that we wrote yesterday).</b></li> <li><b>2. Look for and underline or circle word choices YOU used that indicate your viewpoint about this person.</b></li> <li><b>3. In two places, add more word choices that would indicate your viewpoint.</b></li> </ol> <p>Independent Reading Focus: What word choices or phrases does your author use to shape how you view a character?</p>
Friday December 1	<p>Book talks? <a href="#">Personal profile page</a> for our biography choices AoW - <a href="#">"Wonder" Is Real Life for These Two Families</a> (students will choose one pre-made for one of the families in the article) Independent Reading</p>
Monday December 4	<p>Grammar Blast Review Article of the Week Book talks? Midterm progress check in Biography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze <a href="#">Walt Disney</a></li> <li>- Add your own for your own writing</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>TO DO: 1. Write this information in your writer's notebook. 2. Consider one trait you'd like to highlight about this person. 3. Provide evidence that shows how this person demonstrates this trait. Be specific!</p> <p>Independent Reading</p>
Tuesday December 5	<p>Grammar Blast Biography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze <a href="#">Hoop Genius</a></li> <li>- Add your own for your own writing (same as yesterday, but with a new trait)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create a paragraph about how this person influences you.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Next Steps...</a></p> <p>Use yesterday's web and today's web to come up with a cohesive paragraph about how these traits in this person have influenced YOU. Try to NOT say the traits...</p> <p>EX: I often think of my dad when my birthday comes around. I wonder, "Do I <b>need</b> a new sweater? Can I go <b>without</b> those boots?" In fact, Mrs. Field made me go shopping one time, because I kept wearing the same things! When something gets tough in my life, I often smile thinking of how he'd deal with it. I can get through tough times, too. I have everything I need, and then some.</p> <p>EX: Whenever I'm at home watching TV or searching Pinterest, I often feel guilty for being so lazy. Even if I feel I deserve a break, I know that my dad would be up doing something if he were here today. So, my breaks usually don't last long; I'm motivated to find something to clean, something to make, or some plans to create. I also feel guilty sometimes when I'm talking to my daughter and she says, "You're joking, right?" I joke around with her so much that she's not always sure when I'm serious! However, even though I sometimes feel guilty about these things, I know that I'm doing the best I can and that my dad would be proud of me.</p> <p>Independent Reading</p>
Wednesday December 6	<p>Finish Grammar Book Talks? Biography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Write (or tweak) introductory paragraph               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Things to consider...                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Full Name</li> <li>- Birth / Death date(s)</li> <li>- Something about their childhood or early years</li> <li>- Occupation or relationship to you</li> <li>- Transitional sentence that would lead into the character traits or who the person is/was today.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>- Write body paragraph</li> <li>- Add final influence</li> </ul> <p>Independent Reading</p>
Thursday December 7	<p>Book Talks? "Finish" polished biography</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze teacher examples - <a href="#">Mrs. Kirr</a> &amp; <a href="#">Mrs. Rehberger</a></li> <li>- Get &amp; receive peer feedback</li> <li>- Revise and Edit</li> <li>- Copy/Paste to Google Classroom</li> </ul> <p>Independent Reading</p>
Friday December 8	<p>Book Talks? Put biography on Google Classroom <a href="#">Biography Kahoot!</a></p>

	<p>Reflect on the Week (plus/delta chart)</p> <p>Article of the Week - “<a href="#">Later Start Times; Less Homework...</a>”</p> <p>Independent Reading</p> <p>Focus: What word choices or phrases does your author use to shape how you view a character?</p>
--	--