

The Main Character Questionnaire



- ✓ Overhead transparency of “Main Character Questionnaire”
- ✓ Many photocopies of “Main Character Questionnaire”
- ✓ Wall poster of Margaret Banning quotation
- ✓ Wall poster of Virginia Woolf quotation
- ✓ Wall poster of John Irving quotation
- ✓ Extra-fine-point permanent marker

MAIN CHARACTER QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What's your name?
2. How old are you?
3. What's the problem you're facing?
4. What's your family background?
5. Where do you live?
6. What do you like to do?
7. What's different about you?
8. What do you care about?
9. What do you fear?
10. What are your dreams?
11. Who are the important people in your life?
12. What are the important things in your life?
13. How will you change through confronting your problem?
Possibilities:
14. What will you understand about yourself and your world
at the end of the story? Possibilities:

“Fiction is not a dream.
Nor is it guesswork.
It is imagining
based on facts,
and the facts must be
accurate or the
work of imagining
will not stand up.”

– *Margaret Banning*

**“Fiction is like a spider’s web,
attached ever so lightly
perhaps, but still
attached to life
at all four corners.”**

– Virginia Woolf

**“I believe you have
constructive accidents en route
through a novel only because
you mapped a clear way. If you
have confidence that you have
a clear direction to take, you
always have confidence to
explore other ways . . .
The more you know about a
book, the freer you can be to
fool around.
The less you know, the tighter
you get.”**

– John Irving