



# Character analysis

## Reading Comprehension Worksheet

### Practice

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**Character analysis** is thinking about *what a character does* to understand *what kind of person they are*.

**Character traits** are words that describe the *kind of person* someone is.

Here a few examples of **character traits**:

|             |            |            |         |               |
|-------------|------------|------------|---------|---------------|
| active      | calm       | determined | grouchy | rude          |
| adventurous | caring     | energetic  | helpful | shy           |
| bossy       | curious    | fair       | honest  | stubborn      |
| brave       | dependable | funny      | mean    | understanding |

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Here is a description of a book that you might like to read. Think about *what each character does*, and what this tells you about *what kind of person they are*.

#### Introduction to *Hotel for Dogs*

*Hotel for Dogs* is a funny book written by Lois Duncan. It doesn't start out funny, though. Bruce and Andi's family has just moved to a new town. Bruce is in sixth grade, and Andi is in fourth. They are staying at their aunt's house until their parents find a new house. Bruce and Andi aren't very happy about this because their dog Bebe can't stay at Aunt Alice's house with them. Aunt Alice is allergic to dogs.

On the first day at Aunt Alice's house, their aunt introduces Bruce and Andi to Jerry, who lives next door. Jerry is Bruce's age, and he has a dog named Red Rover. Later that day, Bruce and Andi see Jerry and Red Rover again, in Jerry's front yard. Jerry is pushing Red Rover to try to make him pull a wagon. Bruce runs over to Jerry and tells him that Red Rover will not like him if he keeps treating him that way, but Jerry tells Bruce to mind his own business. Jerry shoves Andi out of the way and starts to leave. He calls Red Rover to come with him. But Red Rover just moves over closer to Bruce.

Bruce and Andi miss Bebe. When Andi walks home from school each day, she pretends that Bebe is walking along behind her. One rainy morning, Andi sees a cute little white dog sitting on Aunt Alice's porch to keep dry. She picks up the little dog and pets it. She wishes she could keep it. When she comes home from school that day and goes to her closet, there on the floor is the little white dog. And three tiny puppies! Andi doesn't know what to do. She knows the dog can't stay in Aunt Alice's house. She is afraid if she tells Bruce he will tell their parents, and then the dog and her puppies will have to go.

What finally happens is that when Andi tells Bruce, he helps her keep the secret. They find a house nearby with no one living in it and take the little dog and its puppies there. They make a nice bed for the dogs, and every day they take them food, and play with them. They are also careful to keep the house clean. Then Red Rover runs away from Jerry, and shows up at the house where Bruce and Andi are keeping the little white dog and her puppies. They let Red Rover stay there too. The house is becoming a regular dog hotel! Before long more dogs are added, and Bruce and Andi let two friends in on the secret. The two friends are a big help, but things just keep getting crazier and crazier. To find out more about all that, you'll have to read *Hotel for Dogs*.

Think about *what the characters did*, and what this shows *the character is like*.

what the character did	what the character is like
1. Bruce and Andi saw Jerry hitting Red Rover with a stick. What does this show that Jerry is like?	A. brave B. mean C. active
2. Bruce told Jerry he shouldn't hit Red Rover. What does this show that Bruce is like?	A. bossy B. curious C. brave
3. Jerry told Bruce to mind his own business, and shoved Andi out of the way. What does this show that Jerry is like?	A. rude B. funny C. calm
4. Andi was afraid that Bruce would tell their parents about the little white dog and its puppies. What does this show that Bruce is like?	A. brave B. honest C. shy
5. Andi told Bruce about the dog and its puppies, and Bruce kept the secret. What does this show that Bruce is like?	A. energetic B. bossy C. helpful
6. Bruce and Andi took the dogs food every day, and played with them. What does this show that Bruce and Andi are like?	A. funny B. calm C. dependable

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7. What is one other character trait that could be used to describe what Bruce is like? \_\_\_\_\_
8. What is one other character trait that could be used to describe what Andi is like? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is one other character trait that could be used to describe what Jerry is like? \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key

1. B

2. C

3. A

4. B

5. C

6. C

7-9 Accept any reasonable responses.