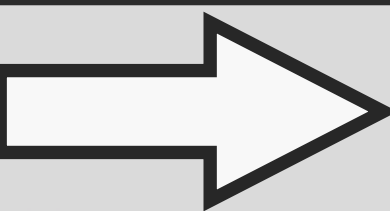


# The Hero's Journey



## **Learning Objective:**

To be able to develop and create a protagonist.



Do you know what a **protagonist** is?



The protagonist is the main character of a story. In other words, the hero. The protagonist doesn't have to be a hero in the traditional sense; they are the main character of the story that the reader roots for.

Can you name the **protagonist** from any of these stories?



Diary of a Wimpy Kid

The Secret Garden

The BFG

The Witches

The Jungle Book

Where the Wild Things Are

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Greg Heffley

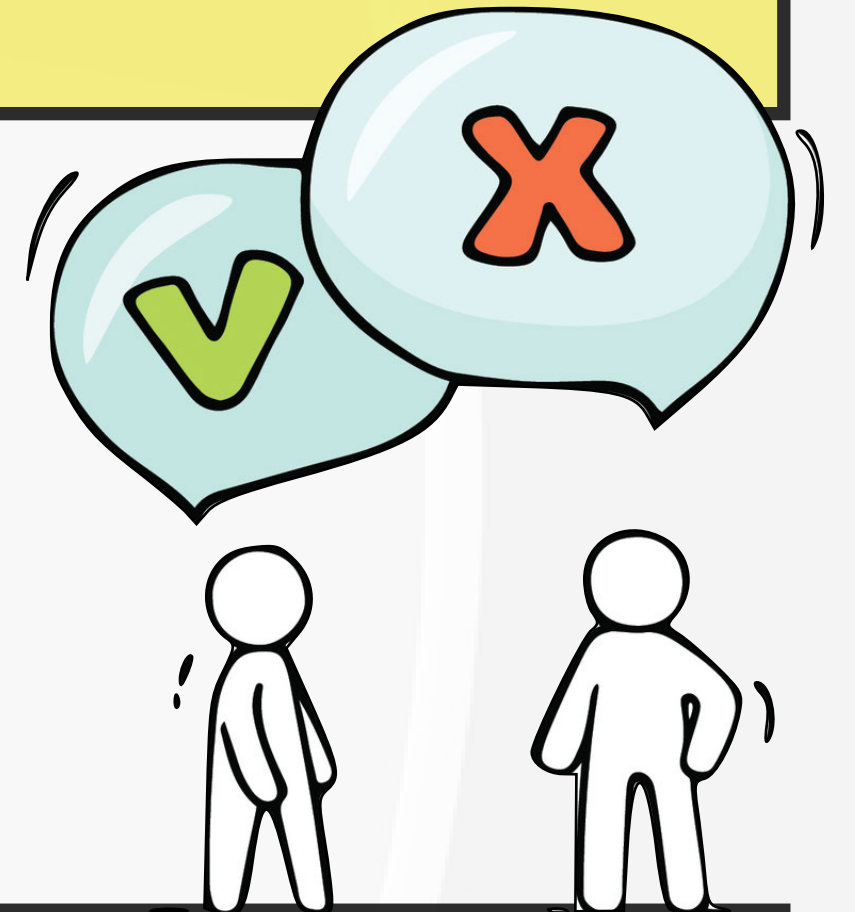
The Secret Garden

Mary Lennox

The BFG

Sophie

How many of those did you get right?



The Witches

Luke

The Jungle Book

Mowgli

Where the Wild Things Are

Max



# Get out your plot plans from the last lesson.

Who is the protagonist of your story?

Are they a man or  
a woman? A boy  
or a girl?

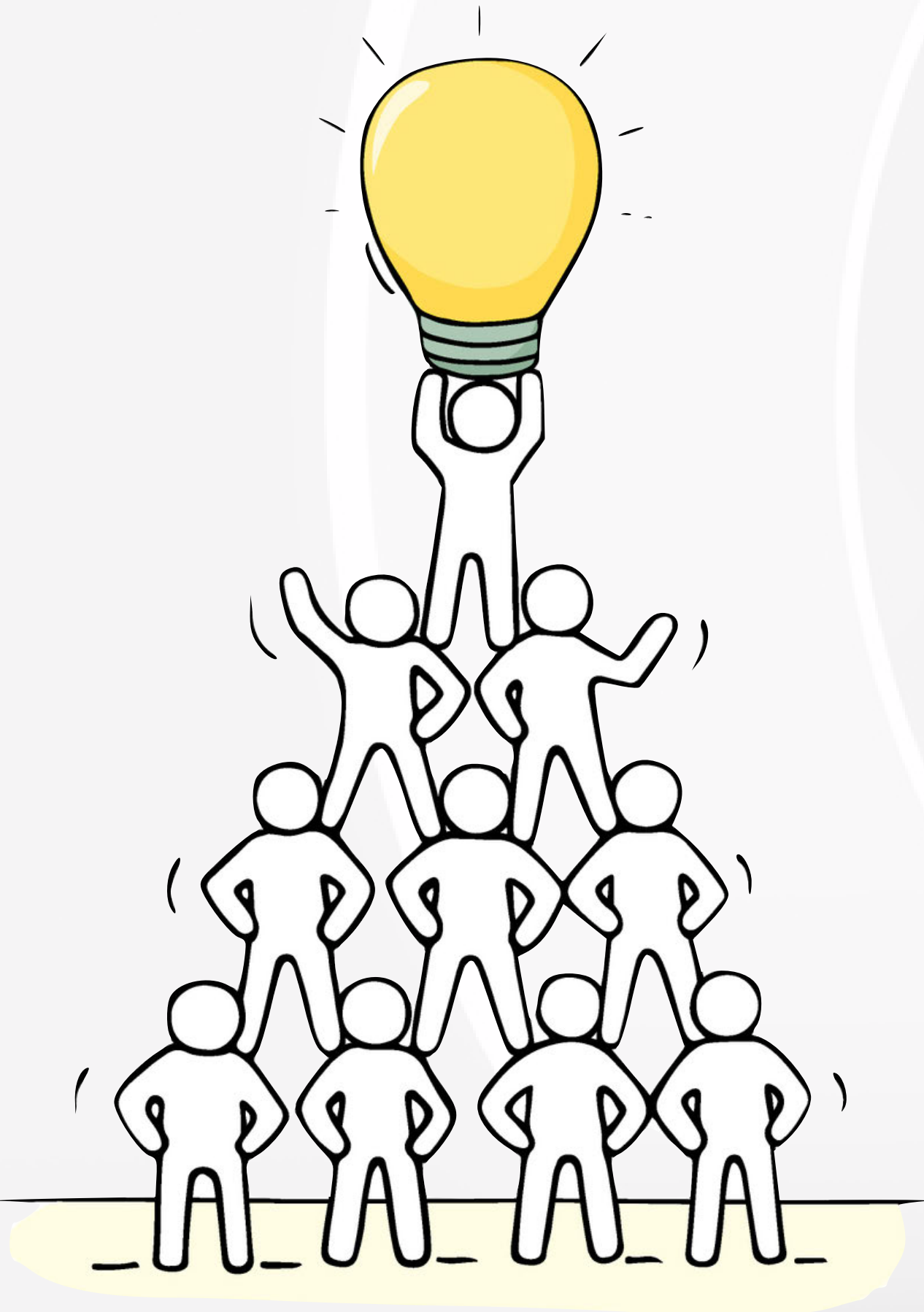
What is their  
name?

Are they a king or  
an ice-skater? A  
princess or a  
scientist?

What is their  
ordinary world  
like?

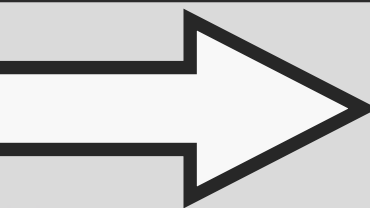
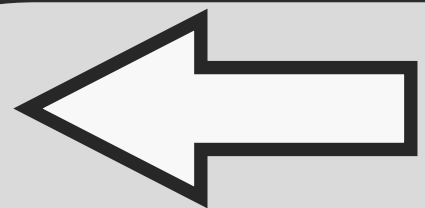


Today, you're going to be developing the main character for your story. It's important to create a protagonist that is likeable so that the reader wants to see them succeed and so that they care what happens to them. You need the reader to be rooting for your protagonist and cheering them on through all their difficulties.

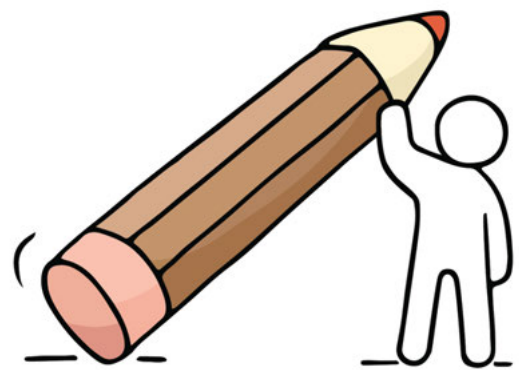


What **characteristics** could you give your protagonist to make them likeable?

**Think, pair, share your ideas.**



# What ideas did you come up with?

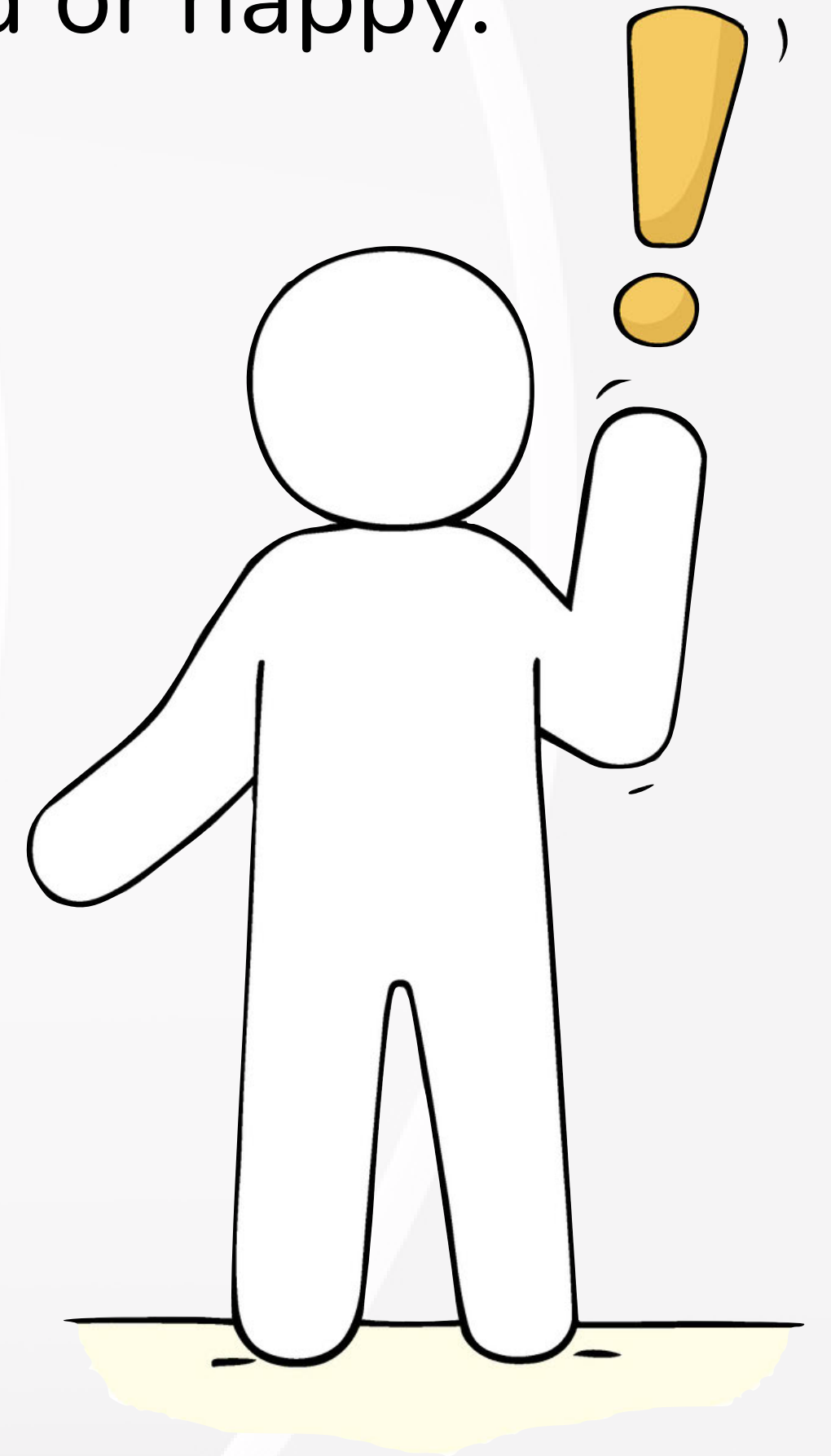




As much as you want your characters to be likeable, you don't have to make them perfect. Giving your character a **quirk** or a **flaw** can make them much more rounded and believable. Maybe they are clumsy or forgetful. Perhaps they are really shy or have something they always do when they are nervous, scared or happy.

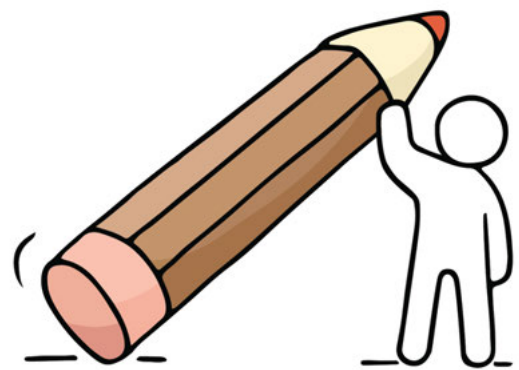
What quirks or flaws could you give your character to make them believable?

**Think, pair, share your ideas.**





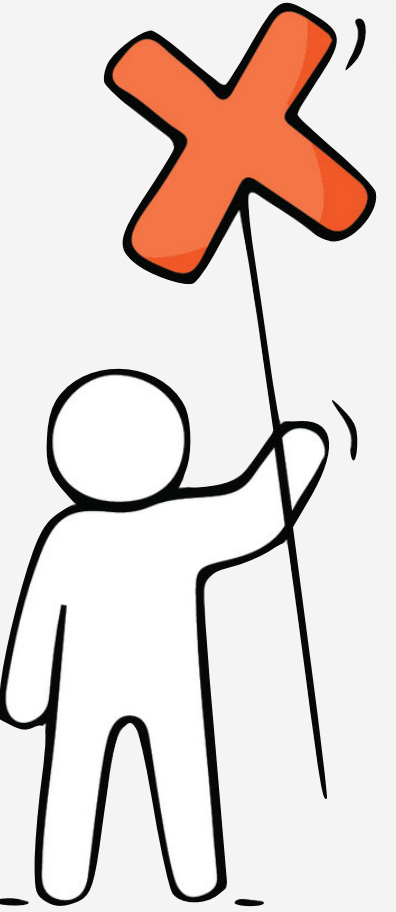
# What ideas did you come up with?



**What else might you need to know about your character  
before you start writing your story?**

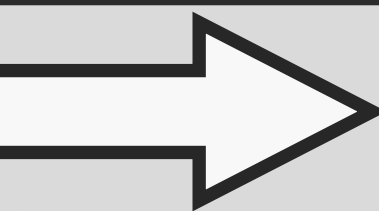
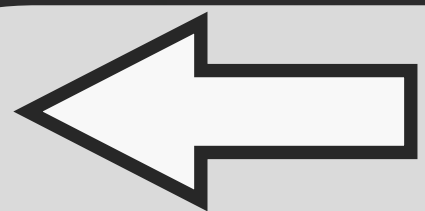
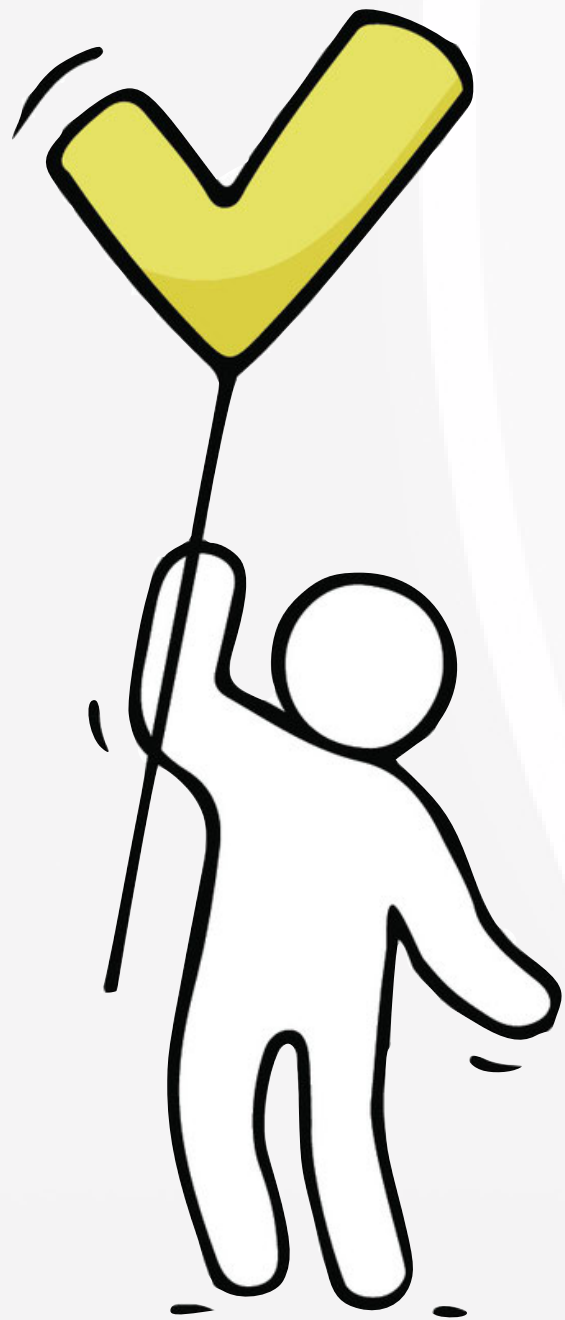


Some people make detailed lists about their characters with notes on what their favourite colour is, what their favourite food is, their favourite shoes, what topping they like on their ice-cream, what they gave their mum for Christmas last year, etc. However, these details are rarely interesting in a story.



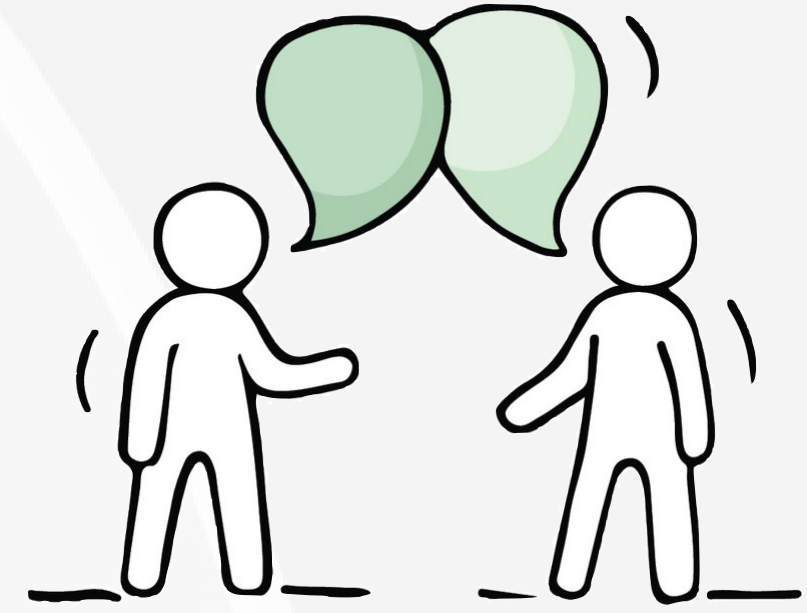
What is far more interesting is to develop a character's backstory by asking questions like this:

- What makes them tick?
- What do they most want out of life?
- What is the one thing that scares them more than anything else?
- What is their most precious memory and why?
- What is their family life like?
- What friends do they have?

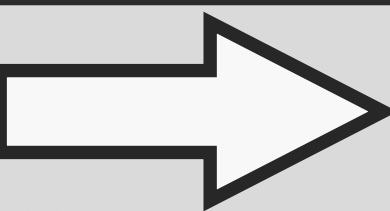
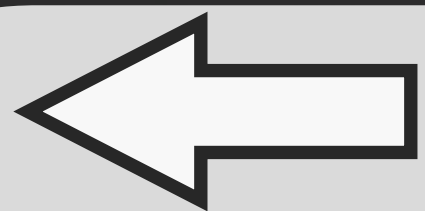




# Tell me about this character!

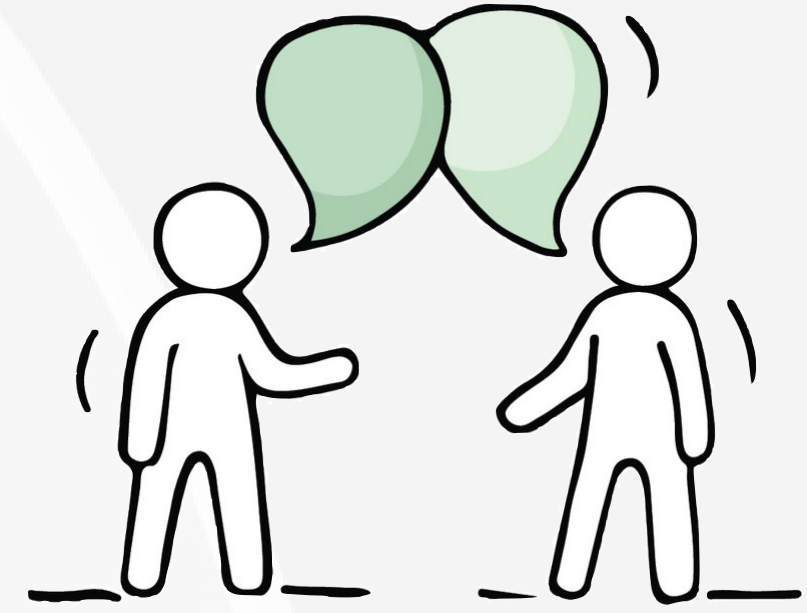


- What makes her happy?
- What makes her sad?
- What does she do for a living?
- What does she do for fun?
- What is she most scared of?
- What is her favourite memory?
- What is her worst memory?
- What does she most want out of life?
- What is her biggest flaw?





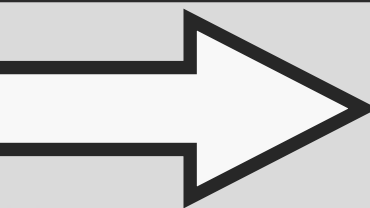
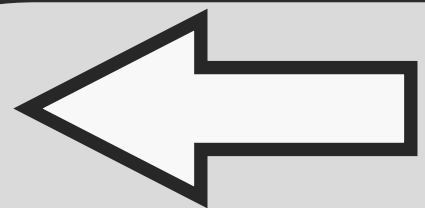
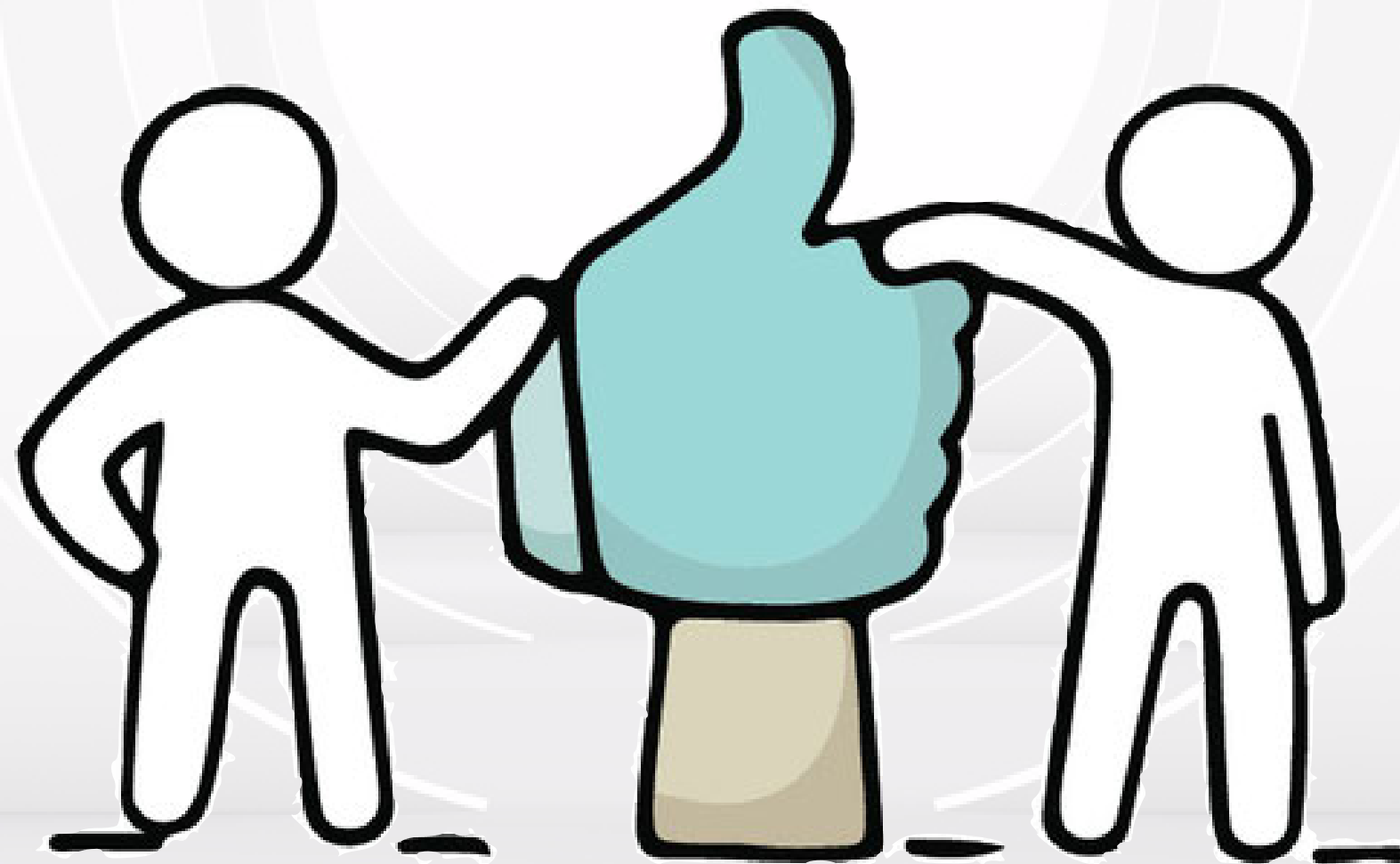
# Tell me about this character!



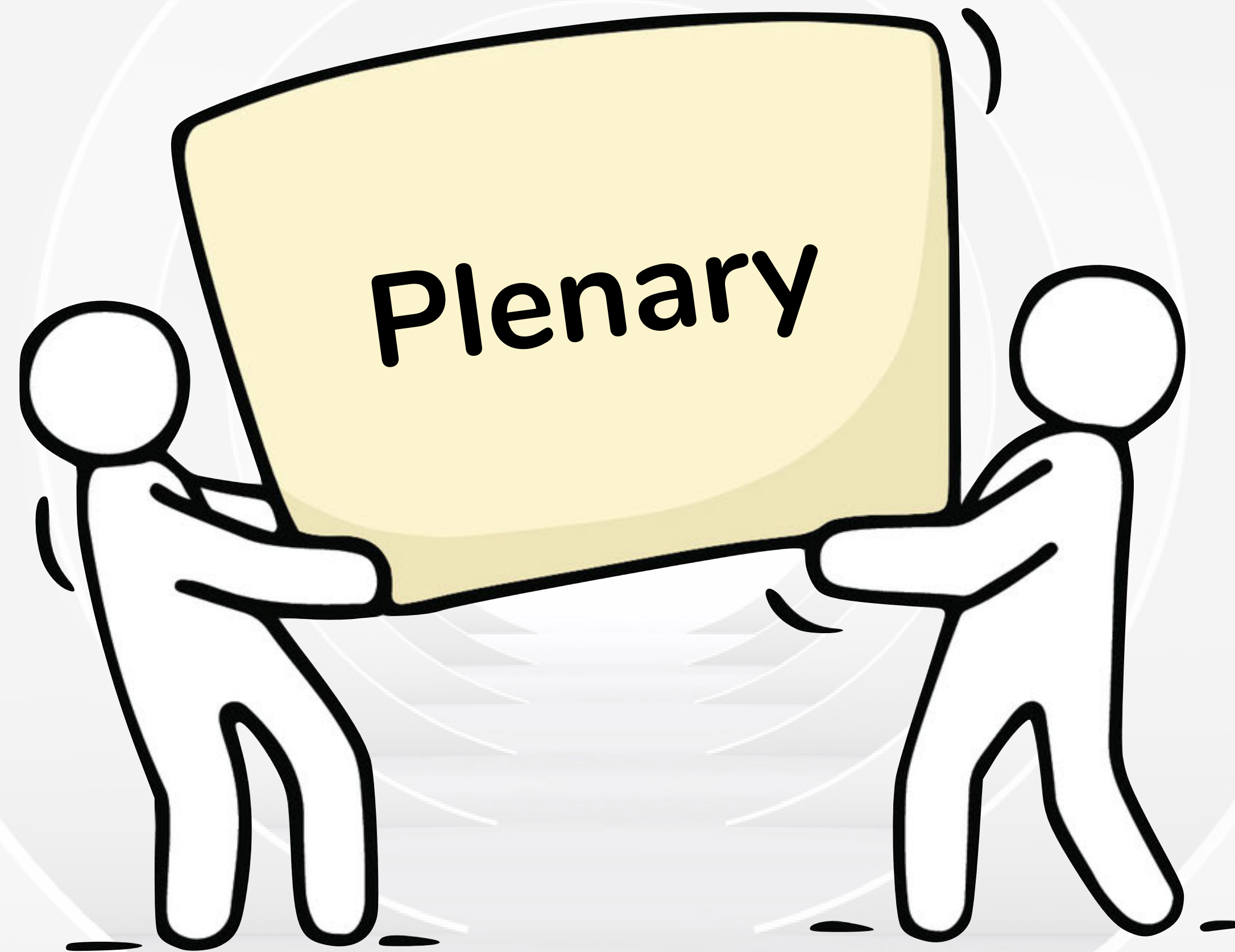
- What makes him happy?
- What makes him sad?
- What does he do for a living?
- What does he do for fun?
- What is he most scared of?
- What is his favourite memory?
- What is his worst memory?
- What does he most want out of life?
- What is his biggest flaw?



# Are you ready to go and create your protagonist?







# Who's in the Hot Seat?

Take it in turns to sit in the hot seat pretending to be your protagonist.

The rest of the class will ask you questions to find out about you!

