***The Book of Three* – Tracking Characters and Style**

**CHARACTERS**

**Physical Appearance**

**Focus on:**

* Physical characteristics
* Clothing and personal objects

**Personality**

**Focus on:**

* Ways of behaving
* Ways of performing actions (adverbs)

***Beside each note, record the page number(s) you are finding this information on.***

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| --- | --- |
| **Character name:** | |
| **Notes on Physical Appearance** | **Notes on Personality** |
| **Motivation**  What does this character want? Why do they behave the way they do? What is your evidence? | |

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**Style**

**Patterns:** What are you noticing about Lloyd Alexander’s writing style? (Again, use page numbers to note where you are taking your evidence from.)

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| --- |
| **Pattern:**  **Evidence** |
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**Great Writing**

Identify an example of what you consider great writing. This could be a sentence, a paragraph, a precise word, or effective usage of punctuation.

There are many reasons why we love writing. To name but a few:

* It reveals character effectively or in unexpected ways
* It creates specific images in our heads
* It tells us something about ourselves, those around us, or the world
* It puts into words feelings or ideas that we have but can’t explain in our own words
* It changes the way we think about something
* It sounds great when we read it out loud
* It is like the author is spying on us – we can relate to what they are writing
* It makes us feel something
* It surprises us through its construction or an unexpected twist in plot or wordplay
* So many other reasons, too!

Notes the page(s) where you are taking the example from, and then explain why you consider this great writing.

***Criteria:***

* **Provide context:** what is happening in the story leading up to this quote? What would an uninformed reader need to know to understand what you are talking about?
* **Proper formatting of evidence/quotes:** as discussed and explored in class; see next page for reminders; ask questions if you are unsure.
* **Be specific:** why, exactly, do you consider this great writing? State your opinion clearly.
* **Be thorough:** break your example down into small parts – go word by word or idea by idea. Why is each piece effective? How does it add up to an effective whole? What would the effect be if this language was changed or eliminated? What is Lloyd Alexander doing with language?
* **Proofread your work:**  
  - are you using one idea per paragraph?  
  - are your sentences correctly constructed? Are there any run-ons or fragments?  
  - are you using precise word choice?  
  - are you varying your word choice?   
  - are you sounding like the professional version of *you*?   
  - are you working to flow from one sentence to the next, and one idea to the next?  
  - are you using commas correctly? Ask if you are unsure!

*Make sure to read your work out loud before you submit it!*