
Discussion Questions

How to Make Readers Care

6/10/2026

- 1. What is the difference between direct and indirect characterization, and why is it best to use both?**
- 2. Why is revealing character through action considered the fastest way to make someone feel real?**
- 3. How can dialogue do "double duty" in a scene?**
- 4. How does a writer's choice of selective detail act as characterization?**
- 5. How can a single scene characterize multiple people at the same time?**
- 6. Why is it important to give a character contradictory traits?**
- 7. What is a common mistake novice writers make with character details, and how can it be fixed?**