

3.2 Characters who change or remain unchanged

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

KEY WORDS dynamic character 动态人物 • some characters remain unchanged 静态人物 • dynamic and static characters

Objective

Build the skills to explain **dynamic and static characters** 动态与静态人物.

You must be able to:

- state what a dynamic character often does
- name the two kinds of change and their relationship
- state the CED's claim about unchanged characters
- explain why an unchanged character is still evidence

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Dynamic characters

A dynamic character who develops over the course of the narrative often makes choices that directly or indirectly affect the climax and/or the resolution of that narrative. Change and plot are linked.

■ Two kinds

Character changes can be visible and external, such as changes to health or wealth, or can be internal, psychological or emotional changes; external changes can lead to internal changes, and vice versa. The causation runs both ways.

■ Unchanged

Some characters remain unchanged or are largely unaffected by the events of the narrative. "Largely" leaves room for small change that is not development.

■ Still evidence

A character who does not change in a narrative full of change is a measure of the others: they show what the events did by showing what they did not do to someone.

2 Practice

2.1 State what a dynamic character often does. [2]

2.2 Name the two kinds of change and their relationship. [2]

2.3 Some characters remain unchanged.

(a) State the CED's wording. [1]

(b) Explain why an unchanged character is still evidence. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 External changes and internal changes are related [1]

- **A** in one direction only
- **B** in both directions
- **C** not at all
- **D** only in drama

3.2 A dynamic character's choices often affect [1]

- **A** the climax and/or resolution
- **B** the title
- **C** the cover
- **D** the genre

3.3 A character loses a fortune and afterwards speaks differently of the poor.

(a) Name the two changes. [1]

(b) Explain the relationship between them.

[2]

Solutions

2.1 develops over the narrative and makes choices that directly or indirectly affect the climax and/or resolution.

2.2 external, such as health or wealth, and internal, psychological or emotional; each can lead to the other.

2.3 (a) they remain unchanged or are largely unaffected by the events. (b) they measure the events by showing what those events did not do to someone, which gives the changes in others a scale.

3.1 B. the CED says “and vice versa”.

3.2 A. climax and/or resolution.

3.3 (a) an external change and an internal one. (b) the external loss produced the internal change, which is the CED’s stated direction and can also run the other way.