# CHARACTERIZATION

**Book Clubs** 

# Round vs. Flat Characters

### **Round Characters**

A rounded character is anyone who has a **complex** personality; he or she is often portrayed as a conflicted and contradictory person. They frequently possess both good and bad traits, and they may react unexpectedly or become entangled in their own interior conflicts. These characters have been fully developed by an author, physically, mentally, and emotionally, and are detailed enough to seem real.

#### **Flat Characters**

A flat character is the opposite of a round character. This literary personality is notable for one kind of personality trait or characteristic. A number of **stereotypical**, or "stock" characters, have developed throughout the history of drama. Some of these characters include the country bumpkin, the con artist, and the city slicker.

# Static vs. Dynamic Characters

## **Dynamic Characters**

A dynamic character is a person who **changes** over time, usually as a result of resolving a central conflict or facing a major crisis. By definition, the protagonist is nearly always a dynamic character. In coming-of-age stories in particular, the protagonist often undergoes dramatic change, transforming from innocence to experience.

## **Static Characters**

A static character is someone who **does not change** over time; his or her personality does not transform or evolve. Supporting characters and major characters other than the protagonist are generally static, though exceptions do occur.

## Round or Flat?

Static or Dynamic?













