

## CHARACTERIZATION AND THE STEAL METHOD

The acronym S.T.E.A.L. can be used to break down the 5 elements of characterization.

**Speech** – What does the character say (dialog)? How does the character speak (tone)?

**Thoughts** – What is revealed by a character’s thoughts and feelings? What motivates a character?

**Effects on others**– the relationships the character has with others and how characters treat each other

**Actions** – How does a character behave, including how they react to people and events?

**Looks** – What does the character look like, including physical features, clothing, body language, etc.

**Directions:** Let’s take a closer look at the character \_\_\_\_\_. Use the text to identify and explain aspects of the character. Find at least one example for each element of characterization (S.T.E.A.L.)

STEAL	Example and Page Number	What insight does the text give us into the character?
<b>Speech</b>		
<b>Thoughts</b>		
<b>Effects</b>		
<b>Actions</b>		
<b>Looks</b>		

Baldwin, K., & Birdseye, D. (2013). *Characterization and S.T.E.A.L.*

<https://www.dvusd.org/cms/lib/AZ01901092/Centricity/Domain/3001/STEAL%20Graphic%20Organizer.pdf>