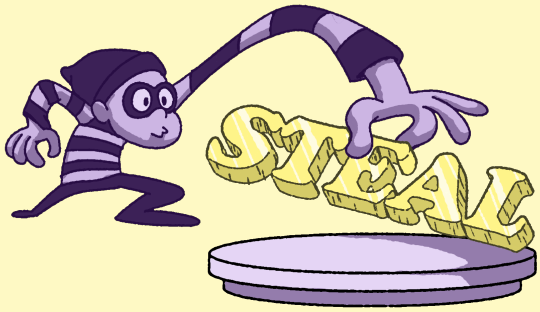
INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



S.T.E.A.L.

A mnemonic device that helps students understand a character's personality, motivations, or development by analyzing their Speech, Thoughts, Effects on Others, Actions, and Looks.

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S.T.E.A.L.

Summary

Students work individually or in pairs using the S.T.E.A.L. method to analyze characters. They will identify examples from a text to analyze a character's Speech, Thoughts, Effects on Others, Actions, and Looks. Then, students will create a character analysis statement to describe a specific character based on the evidence they gathered.

Procedure

1. Have students work independently or in pairs.
2. Once students have read through a specific text, review the S.T.E.A.L. method with them. Explain that they will analyze a specific character's speech, thoughts, effects on others, actions, and their looks.
3. First, ask students to gather text evidence of a specific character's speech, thoughts, effects on others, actions, and looks.
4. Once students have addressed these characteristics, ask them to create a character analysis statement.
5. Have students as themselves the following: "What do these pieces of evidence reveal about the character's personality, motivations, or changes throughout the story?"

Consider providing students with the following example of a Character Analysis Statement: "Through her caring words (S), concerned thoughts (T), and kind actions (A), Maria is portrayed as compassionate and protective."

Read, Write, Think. (2004). Defining characterization. https://www.readwritethink.org