

Student Resource 2 Characterisation

What role does each character play in the novel?

Literary devices

<http://literarydevices.net>

This is a useful website providing definitions and examples for many literary terms.

Use the four headings below to organise your evidence for your chosen character/characters.

Name of character:	Role:
Physical attributes	Direct speech
Narrator's comments	Other people's reactions

Make notes on the meanings created, for example:

Tom Buchanan

Physical attributes

Tom Buchanan in riding clothes was standing with his legs apart on the front porch.

This pose presents Tom as physically powerful, his stance suggesting that he is ready to defend his own property. This image takes on a wider significance as the plot develops, as Tom keeps Gatsby away from his possession/wife, Daisy.

Myrtle

Direct speech

"I want to get one of those dogs," she said earnestly. "I want to get one for the apartment. They're nice to have - a dog."

Myrtle wants Tom to buy her as many possessions as possible. She has a vision of living a different class of life, of what is 'nice to have'.

