

Characterization Activity

Date, Mate, Relate, or Hate?

Characterization is the process by which an author reveals the personality of a character. This can be done through 1) **direct characterization**, in which the author tells the reader explicitly about the character's personality, or 2) **indirect characterization**, in which the reader must make inferences about the character based on his/her actions, words or behaviors.

What inferences have you made about *Pride & Prejudice* characters thus far? Is Elizabeth Bennet someone you would like to have as a friend? Is Mr. Bingley marriage material, or someone more worthy of few interesting dates? Rate the following characters based on the scale below. Provide your reasoning, and cite direct evidence from the novel to support your opinion, including page number.

Rating Scale (Think: Gender Neutral!)

- **DATE:** a character worthy of a few fun dates... but nothing serious
- **MATE:** a character one might bring home to meet mom... for a long-term relationship
- **RELATE:** a character with no romantic interest, but worthy of being a friend (or at least an acquaintance)
- **HATE:** just an all-around unlikeable character... not worth the time or effort for any relationship

CHARACTER	RATING	Reasoning	Textual Evidence	Page #
Elizabeth Bennet				
Jane Bennet				
Charles Bingley				
Fitzwilliam Darcy				
George Wickham				
Mr. Collins				
Mr. Bennet				
Mrs. Bennet				
Charlotte Lucas				
Caroline Bingley				

PRIDE & PREJUDICE

Common Core Aligned

Characterization Activity

Thank you for downloading this product!

I hope your high school students have some fun with it, and more importantly, that it helps them to more deeply understand and appreciate the characters and their relationships within *Pride and Prejudice*. The activity can be used early in the novel, and, if desired, revisited later for comparison. Sure to start a lively discussion, this is an activity that cultivates fun controversy in the classroom!

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