

Star Character Creation

Time to Complete:	12 – 14 minutes
Mission:	To build an interesting character from a list reasons for certain traits. To understand how adding opposing forces and traits in a character makes them well rounded.
Outcome:	To create an interesting, well-rounded character by writing very short reasons that explain why that character has that trait. Some traits will be weak and others strong. Some traits will be specific and others more vague.
Potential Difficulty:	You might think you need to understand psychology before you can give a credible reason for a trait but all you have to do is write in any reason and strive to have it make sense later.
Steps to Complete the Exercise:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Start at any point of the star.2. Fill in at least one line with a reason why that trait exists in the character. Example: On a line next to the 'courage' point, you might write, “saved a puppy from a burning building.”3. Complete at least 4 points to avoid creating a cardboard cutout character.4. Write in the characters first and last name.5. Optional, you can write in the character's parent names, if you've created other characters that connect to this character.
Ways to Avoid Failure:	Do some light reading on a wiki or website that talks about personality traits and where they come from. You can consider this exercise a success if you can complete at least 4 different points, otherwise your character will be just a cardboard cutout. Try to fill in at least one line from each trait, so you have a well rounded character.