

Autopsy Analysis of a Character

Use the body outline on the next page to plan your autopsy of a character from our selection. Respond to the questions for the body parts on notebook paper. You may type them for the final project. For the final version, outline the body of a classmate, complete the autopsy of a major character from your novel and include the information list below the instructions. Be sure to provide textual evidence for each portion. You are not limited to drawing the character's autopsy; you may be VERY creative! (Death, Hans, Liesel, Rosa, Rudy)

Body Parts and Purpose—Do NOT forget the textual evidence!!

- **Head**—intellectual side of the character—book smarts, street smarts, survival instincts, etc.
 - What are the dreams or aspirations of the character?
 - What are the philosophies or ideas of the character?
 - What are the moral beliefs of the character?
- **Eyes**—seeing the conflicts, settings, other characters, events through the eyes of the character
 - What are the events witnessed by the character that had an effect?
 - How was the character affected by those events?
- **Ears**—hearing the relationships, conflicts, events through the ears of the character
 - What impact did the words of other characters have on the character?
 - How did these words affect the character?
- **Nose**—nosing into other characters' business
 - What events or situations did the character make his or her business?
 - How did this act affect the relationship with the other character?
- **Mouth**—communication with himself/herself and other characters
 - What beliefs does the character share with others?
 - What arguments or debates did the character engage with another character? For what purpose?
 - What song, poem, or shape symbolizes the character's philosophy of life? (use your archetype notes in the literary term glossary)
- **Arms**—working for himself/herself or others
 - What is the character's work ethic?
 - Why does the character have this belief about work?
- **Hands**—practical side of the character (thoughtful choices)
 - What conflicts does the character engage in?
 - Why do these conflicts influence the characters?
- **Heart**—emotional side of the character (emotional reactions to other characters, conflicts, events)
 - What/who does the character love? Why?
 - What/who does the character hate? Why?
 - What/who does the character long for? Why?
 - Describe the character's good side.
- **Torso**—instinctive side of the character (thoughtless reactions to other characters, conflicts, events)
 - What does the character like about himself or herself? Why?
 - What does the character dislike about himself or herself? Why?
 - What does the character try to hide from others? Why?
 - What things or people bring pain to the character? Why?
 - What or who does the character fear? Why?
 - Describe the character's dark side.

