

Turning Point:

The point in a story where the character (usually the protagonist) changes significantly due to events of the story.

Example: In Ezra Jack Keats book, Peter's Chair, the turning point is when Peter tries to sit in his old chair and he realizes he is too big. After this new discovery, he changes and is no longer upset that his parents are painting all his baby stuff pink. He even helps his dad paint his chair pink.

Ways of Thinking about Characters

Dynamic vs. Static

Dynamic Character:

A character that changes significantly (in an important way) over the course of the story. For example, a dynamic character is different at the end of the story.

Example: In Stone Fox, Searchlight's death changes Stone Fox and he allows Willy to win the race.

Static Character:

A character who does not change significantly (in an important way) over the course of a story.

Example: In *Stone Fox*, Doc Smith and Lester are two characters who remain static, or don't change.

Round vs. Flat

Round Character:

A character who is realistic and complex. For example, a character who has a range of emotions and can show both good and bad sides, and seems like a real person is considered a round character. The protagonist is almost always a round character.

Flat Character:

A character who does not have a realistic or complex personality. A character who we only know one side of their personality is considered flat. Also, a character you can describe in a single sentence is usually a flat character.

Example: “city slickers” or the “town drunk” from *Stone Fox*.