

Text Difficulty Band U/N/W

Talk and Thought Prompts Readers Can Use to Understand Characters in U/N/W Texts

Sometimes the author writes a story to address an issue or convey an idea. The author creates characters who'll carry (or represent) part of the idea. You might say:

- In this book, the author uses _____ to convey _____. Evidence for this includes _____.
- On the other hand, it could be that the author uses _____ to convey _____.

In a complex book, the author sometimes adds seemingly inconsequential people, traveling on what seems for a time to be a side track from the main storyline. But in the end, some of these people turn out to be essential to the story's resolution. You might think about:

- These minor characters are in here because _____.

In complex books, readers need to read, realizing that some of what a character says is actually not trustworthy—that some of what the character says is meant to reveal that character's perspectives and readers are supposed to know, all along, that this is just one, biased perspective—that there are other ways to see things. You might say:

- For example, in this book, when _____ said _____, I didn't entirely trust her/him. I sensed this could mostly reveal that he/she _____.