

A **character's motive** is the **reason for doing something**.

A **character's actions** are **what they do**.

► Each character's actions help **determine the outcome of the plot**.

¹**Marcos wanted to win the annual Spelling Bee** this year. ²**Rose** was reigning ³champion the last three years, and **did not want to win again**. ³She was tired of the pressure of being champion. ⁴**Marcos studied hard every day**, and **practiced with his mom on the weekends**. ⁵**Rose didn't practice** at all.

⁶During the contest, Rose and Marcos were tied. ⁷In the fifth round, **Rose spelled a word wrong** and was out of the competition. ⁸**She was relieved that she lost**. ⁹When the last word was called, **Marcos nailed it**, and **he won the Spelling Bee!**

Contrast Characters:

Marcos is motivated to win and works hard.

Rose is not motivated to win.

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Which is an example of a character's motive? Explain.

- A Gilbert watched TV at night.**
- B Gilbert wanted to buy a new video game.**

Which is an example of a character's action? Explain.

- A Gilbert took care of the neighbor's dogs to earn some money.**
- B Gilbert's likes to eat ice cream after doing a chore.**

Which is an example of a plot's outcome? Explain.

- A Gilbert decided to mow some lawns to make enough money for the video game.**
- B Now, Gilbert had enough money to buy the video game.**

What is the difference between the motive and the actions?

- 1 Read the text.
- 2 Identify the character. (write)
- 3 Identify the character's motive (box) and actions (underline). (write)
- 4 Determine the outcome. (write)

¹A dog, wanting to go home, was walking down a path. ²Suddenly, a cat, who wanted to scare the dog, jumped out onto the path. ³This scared the dog, so he turned around and started walking away. ⁴"But," he thought, "the path was the only way for me to get home." ⁵So he started down the path again. ⁶The cat hissed at the dog and arched his back, as cats do, so the dog turned again to walk away. ⁷But, the dog was worried that he may never get home. ⁸This time he was determined to get past the cat. ⁹The dog barked at the cat. ¹⁰Shaking, the cat told the dog he could cross. The dog continued on his way home, and the cat stood there trembling and watching.

Character	Motive	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome

How are the dog and cat different?

- A The dog is determined to go home; the cat tried to scare him.
- B The dog is very brave; the cat is afraid of everything.
- C The dog is confused; the cat is worried about getting home.
- D The dog is very helpful to people; the cat likes to scare people.

Skill Closure

- 1 Identify each character’s motive. (box and write in organizer)
- 2 Identify each character’s actions. (underline and write in organizer)
- 3 Determine the outcome. (write in organizer)
- 4 Contrast the characters’ motives. (circle the answer)

¹Sadie, the dog, wanted her peanut butter treat. ²But, her owner wanted her to do some tricks before she could have the peanut butter. ³Sadie’s owner told her to sit, so Sadie sat. ⁴Then, her owner told her to give him a high-five, so Sadie gave him one. ⁵Sadie thought that she was going to get her peanut butter now. ⁶However, her owner asked her to do one more trick. ⁷“Speak, Sadie,” said her owner, so Sadie said, “Can I have my treat now?” ⁸Her owner gave her a treat!

Motives	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome
Sadie’s				
Owner’s				

How are Sadie and her owner different?

- A Sadie is only thinking of peanut butter; the owner is thinking of treats.
- B Sadie dreams of peanut butter; the owner dreams of doing tricks.
- C Sadie is not very smart; the owner is disappointed.
- D Sadie is a smart dog and can do tricks; the owner thinks Sadie should work for her treats.

Concept Closure

Mr. Juarez told the students they would not get recess today if they didn’t start acting better. The students got quiet, worked hard, and waited for the bell.

Alan said the teacher’s motive in this passage is to have a good recess. Is he correct? Explain.

Summary Closure

What did you learn today about contrasting motives and actions of characters?

Word Bank

motive
reason why
action
outcome
plot

- 1 Identify each character's motive. (box and write in organizer)
- 2 Identify each character's actions. (underline and write in organizer)
- 3 Determine the outcome. (write in organizer)
- 4 Contrast the characters' motives. (circle the answer)

¹Grandpa wanted to take his grandson Peter fishing. ²Peter had been looking forward to fishing with his grandpa all week. ³Peter put a worm on his hook then cast out his line. ⁴Grandpa put a worm on his own hook and cast out his line. ⁵Grandpa said, "Now we just wait." ⁶Peter was getting bored because he didn't like waiting. ⁷So he reeled in his line and then threw it out again. ⁸Grandpa, on the other hand, patiently left his line in the water. ⁹Suddenly, Grandpa felt a tug on his line, and he yelled to Pete, "I think I caught a fish!" ¹⁰Pete ran over to help Grandpa ¹¹Grandpa told Peter to bring it in slowly so the fish wouldn't get away. ¹²Peter began reeling it in, but the fish fought back. ¹³It took both Grandpa and Peter to reel in the fish because it was huge! ¹⁴After that, Peter learned that the best way to fish is to wait patiently.

	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome
Grandpa's Motive				
Peter's Motive				

How are Grandpa and Peter different?

- A Grandpa likes to play games; Peter likes to fish.
- B Grandpa likes to spend time with Peter; Peter doesn't.
- C Grandpa is patient; Peter doesn't like waiting.
- D Grandpa is selfish; Peter is caring.



Listening

Listen to the story 1.

Determine the characters' motives, actions, and outcome.

	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome
Cat's Motive				
Mouse's Motive				

How are Cat and Mouse different?

- A Cat was selfish; Mouse was caring.
- B Cat was trying to survive; Mouse was dishonest so she could get what she wanted.
- C Cat was dishonest; Mouse was dishonest.
- D Cat did not like Mouse; Mouse liked Cat.

Listen to the story 2.

Determine the characters' motives, actions, and outcome.

	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome
Tiger's Motive				
Ox's Motive				

How are Tiger and Ox different?

- A Tiger is brave and helps; Ox is afraid.
- B Tiger is selfish and only thinks of his needs; Ox trusts Tiger and is willing to help him.
- C Tiger is brave and wants to do things on his own; Ox is scared of water.
- D Tiger is afraid of the water; Ox is afraid of the water.

**Reading****Read the text.****Determine the characters' motives, actions, and outcome.****Contrast the characters' motives.**

¹Elias and Juanita were excited about going to the amusement park. ²Juanita wanted to ride all the big, fast rides. ³Elias wanted to ride all the small, slow rides; he was afraid of the big rides. ⁴Elias rode with his mom on all the small rides. ⁵Juanita, on the other hand, rode all the big, fast rides with her dad. ⁶The last ride of the day was the Haunted House. ⁷Juanita told Elias he could ride this one because it was a slow ride. ⁸So, the whole family stood in line to ride the Haunted House ride. ⁹The closer they got to the front of the line, the more scared Elias became. ¹⁰When, it was their turn to get on, Elias was so scared that he screamed. ¹¹So, he left with mom, and Juanita and her dad went on the ride together.

	Action #1	Action #2	Outcome
Juanita's Motive			
Elias' Motive			

How are Juanita and Elias different?

- A** Elias is not afraid of anything; Juanita is afraid of big things.
- B** Elias is very helpful to his sister; Juanita is very helpful to her brother.
- C** Elias is afraid of big things; Juanita is not afraid of anything.
- D** Elias is afraid of fast rides; Juanita likes the big, fast rides.

 Writing

Determine the characters' motives, actions, and outcome.
Contrast the characters' motives.

¹It was a hot summer day. Bobby and Carlos were walking down to the swimming hole to cool off. ²Suddenly, they came across a small snake that was injured. ³Bobby wanted to move the snake to a safer area. ⁴Carlos wanted to catch the snake so he could take it to scare his little sister. ⁵Bobby decided to find a safe spot for the snake. ⁶Bobby very carefully wrapped the snake in his towel and started to move it. ⁷He put the snake next to a tree and covered it with leaves. ⁸Carlos complained because he didn't get to scare his sister.

	Action #1	Action #2	Action #3	Outcome
Bobby's Motive				
Carlos' Motive				

How are Bobby and Carlos different?

- A Bobby is afraid to do what's right; Carlos likes to scare people.
- B Bobby is afraid to offer help; Carlos takes care of everyone.
- C Bobby thinks only of himself; Carlos thinks of everyone else's feelings first.
- D Bobby likes helping animals; Carlos likes to use animals to scare people.