# Figure 4.2: Character Exploration Template

**Directions:** For this project, your group will demonstrate its understanding of a character by creating a visual representation and an in-depth analysis.

**Part One: Body Map**

Your group will use the planning sheet provided to create a body map of its assigned character. The body map is a visual outline of the character illustrating implicit (inferences and analysis) and explicit (quotes and textual evidence) details. Your group's choices should represent a careful analysis and a profound understanding of the character as the author develops him or her over the course of the literary work.

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**Planning Sheet**

**Character name:**

**Physical description:** What does your character look like? In other words, what does the author explicitly state about your character's appearance?

**Key quotations:** Choose at least two quotations your character says that reveal his or her character.

Quote one:

Significance:

Quote two:

Significance:

**Key quotation spoken about your character:** Choose at least one quotation that *another* character says about your character that reveals something about him or her.

Speaker:

Quote:

Significance:

**Actions:** What does your character do that suggests something about him or her?

**Thoughts:** What can you infer your character believes or thinks about?

**Goals and motivations:** What is the dominant, unconscious goal your character is striving for?

**Principles and worst attributes (virtues and vices):** What are your character's most admirable qualities? What are your character's worst qualities?

**Thesis statement:** Using evidence from the text, form a thesis statement or claim that explains what kind of person your character is and what motivates him or her.

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**Part Two: Poem**

Your group will need to collaborate and write a poem to accompany its body map. Your group must write the poem in one of the following poetic types. As these poems are stylistically simplistic, your group should use vivid and complex language to express its overall meaning.

**Types of Poems**

**Option one: Cinquain**

A *cinquain* is a five-line poem that describes a person, place, or thing (ReadWriteThink, n.d.).

Line 1 has one word—a noun that tells what your poem is about.

Line 2 has two adjectives that describe what you're writing about.

Line 3 has three gerunds (-ing words) that describe what your poem is about.

Line 4 has a phrase that tells more about what you're writing about.

Line 5 has a noun—a synonym for your title that tells what your poem is about.

**Option two: Haiku**

"A traditional Japanese haiku is a three-line poem with seventeen syllables, written in a 5/7/5 syllable count. Often focusing on images from nature, haiku emphasizes simplicity, intensity, and directness of expression" (Poets.org, 2016).

**Option three: Limerick**

A limerick is a humorous rhyming poem that has five lines.

*Poets.org. (2016).* Haiku: Poetic form. *Accessed at https://poets.org/text/haiku-poetic-form on September 16, 2019.*

*ReadWriteThink. (n.d.).* Cinquain graphic organizer. *Accessed at www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson43/RWT016-2.pdf on September 16, 2019.*