

## LESSON

## 18

## Characters

WORDS  
TO KNOW

**Characters** the people or animals who make a story happen

**Review It!**

Read these sentences. Use the Hint to help you understand the character.

“I won’t let the bad weather get me down,” Leah said with a laugh. “We’ll just have our annual family picnic indoors. Family, friends, and food are what the day is all about!”

**Hint** Think about what kind of person sees the bright side in what others might find a gloomy situation.

**Try It!**

Read this passage. As you read, underline the names of the characters and circle clues that tell you more about them.

- 1 Dr. Zackow was ready to leave his office when the phone rang. It was Mrs. Moreno. She sounded worried and wanted to bring her dog in right away. Dr. Zackow told her that he would wait.
- 2 Soon, Mrs. Moreno’s car pulled up. She managed to carry the large dog inside. Her son Justin followed silently. As Mrs. Moreno laid the dog on the examining table, she explained that a window had broken in her house. In the mess, her dog, Bart, had stepped on a piece of glass. Now it was lodged in his paw.
- 3 Dr. Zackow carefully checked Bart’s paw. He explained that he would need to numb Bart’s leg in order to remove the glass. A half hour later, Dr. Zackow came out and spoke to Mrs. Moreno and Justin. Bart was fine but would need to take it easy for a while.

Now, use the passage to answer the questions on the following page.

1. Details from the passage show that Dr. Zackow
  - A. doesn't work late
  - B. loves animals and his job
  - C. would rather be at home
  - D. is impatient
  
2. Who is the main character in the story?
  - A. Dr. Zackow
  - B. Mrs. Moreno
  - C. Justin
  - D. Bart
  
3. Which word **best** describes Mrs. Moreno in this passage?
  - A. guilty
  - B. anxious
  - C. calm
  - D. excited
  
4. Which sentence from the passage lets you know that Mrs. Moreno cares about Bart?
  - A. "Soon, Mrs. Moreno's car pulled up."
  - B. "A half-hour later, Dr. Zackow came out and spoke to Mrs. Moreno and Justin."
  - C. "Now it was lodged in his paw."
  - D. "She sounded worried and wanted to bring her dog in right away."

### In Your Own Words

5. What are three adjectives that would describe Dr. Zackow?

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2.

Which character is the focus of the story?

3.

How does Mrs. Moreno seem when she calls the vet and carries Bart into the office?

5.

What do Dr. Zackow's actions tell you about him?