

# THINKING WITH MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Video: Luis Garcia: End Zone Hero

Fourth Quarter & Overtime

*Characterization*

*(others' thoughts about the character & the character in action)*

Laura loves kids. She volunteers twice per week after school at her neighborhood day-care. On Thursday, she's planning to read to children. She found the perfect book at the library about a prince. Since the kids like to dress-up and pretend they are kings, queens, princes, and princesses, she thinks this story will be a new favorite. She also realized that she learned a lot about the prince's character through others' thoughts about him and his actions.

Now it's **Your Turn!** Read ***A Feast Fit For a Prince***. Create your own *Think Aloud* and *T-chart*.

Then compare your thinking with **Laura's Think Aloud and T-Chart**.



#### Before You Read:

Think about what you may already know about princes and cooking. Consider what you've learned about characterization through others' thoughts about the character and the character in action. Share your thoughts with your family and friends.

#### While You Read:

Ask your parent, brother, sister, or friend to read this story with you. See if together you can determine the public and private traits that authors use to reveal their characters through the thoughts of others and the characters in action. You may want to highlight the public traits in green and the private traits in orange. (You may use any color available to you – just remember your color scheme!) Then record these traits in a T-chart so that you develop a complete picture of what the character is like.

#### After You Read:

- Think about how you can identify the character traits revealed by the author through others' thoughts about the character and the character in action from the story you read.
- Discuss your ideas with your family or friends. Together, create a collaborative Think Aloud about how you used others' thoughts about the character and the character in action to determine the public and private traits of the character. Share your *thinking* with each other

#### A Feast Fit for a Prince



Prince Victor chopped turnips and potatoes. He tossed them into a bubbling stew. His fruit tarts and puddings lined the table. A golden turkey roasted on the spit. Prince Victor mopped his brow and whistled cheerfully.

The kitchen servants huddled and whispered in the corner.

"He's been at it all night," said the castle cook.

"He says he likes working in the kitchen better than preparing to be king," gasped the baker.

"But what about his sword training this afternoon?" said the castle cook. "What about his horsemanship training tomorrow?"

Just then, Prince Victor looked up and grinned. Flour covered his royal clothing. Bread dough covered his hands.

"What about our feast right now?" said Prince Victor. "Come, let us dine together!"

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### Create a T-Chart:

After you have determined the public and private traits the author revealed through others' thoughts about the character and the character in action, create a T-Chart below to represent your thinking and help you remember these key characteristics.



#### Compare your Think Aloud with 's Think Aloud:

**Laura's Think Aloud:** I know that I can learn a lot about the character if I pay close attention to their actions and the thoughts others have about the character. As I read the first sentence, I realize that the character is a prince because the character is called, "Prince Victor." On my T-chart I will list "prince" under the public column because this is an observable trait. As I continue reading it says he, "chopped turnips and potatoes" ... tossed them into a bubbling stew,"... "fruit tarts and puddings lined the table," and "a golden turkey roasted on the spit." This helps me understand that he must be a chef because he has such a feast of food. On my T-chart I will list "chef" under the public column, since this an observable trait. When I read, "whistled cheerfully," I think that the Prince is happy because of the word cheerfully. I record "happy" under the private column.

When I read, "He's been at it all night," I'm thinking he must be hard working because he's been cooking for such a long period of time. Since being a hard worker is an inner strength, I record "hardworking" under the private column. When I read the thoughts from the other characters in the story, "he likes working in the kitchen better than preparing to be king, "... "What about his sword training this afternoon?" and " What about his horsemanship training tomorrow?" combined with the Prince's invitation for the "feast right now," I am thinking that Prince Victor must live in the moment. I'm thinking this because he is not concerned with any of his upcoming responsibilities in preparing to be king. He just wants to cook and share his food with others. On my T-chart I will record "lives in the moment" under the private column.

His actions of inviting the kitchen servants to join him in his feast when I read "Come let us dine together" also helps me realize he is friendly and is accepting of others. I'm thinking this because he is a prince and he is dining with the servant staff. This helps me understand that he also values relationships with others. On my T-chart I will write "friendly," "accepting of others," and "values relationships" under the private column because each trait is an inner strength of Prince Victor.

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### Compare your T-Chart with Laura's T-Chart:

**Laura's T-Chart:** "Because the author revealed the main character's public and private traits through the thoughts of others and through the character in action, I will record these characteristics by creating a T-chart."

Public Traits	Private Traits
prince chef	happy hardworking lives in the moment friendly accepting of others values relationships

### Questions to Think and Talk About:

- How do character traits help Laura get to know the main character?
- How does a T-chart help Laura develop a picture of what the character is like?
- Why might this process help you get to know characters you read about?
- When might this process be useful?

