

thinking ALOUD

Making Sense of Literacy



VIDEO SCRIPT

SPOT: Luis Garcia: End Zone Hero

Third Quarter

Characterization
(character's thoughts)



Scene	Full Transcript
1	Narrator: If you are just tuning in, Turner and Ava spent the first half of <i>End Zone Hero</i> learning about characterization and identifying character traits for a young high school quarterback named Luis Garcia. But you won't miss a play if you view the first two episodes and start THINKING ALOUD!
2	Introduction
3	Narrator: Welcome back. You, like the Knowledge Seekers, will find that skillful authors use characterization to develop attributes of the characters that appear in their stories. The credibility of characters depends on the author's ability to show their true natures, their strengths, and their weaknesses. The characters portrayed should be so convincingly real and lifelike that we feel we've come to know them.
4	Narrator: Skillful authors also know that consistency is the name of the game. Characters must be portrayed consistently. Everything they do, think, and say should seem natural and appropriate for their age, culture, experience, and educational background.
5	Narrator: This is not to say that some characters don't evolve and change over the course of the story. Longer stories allow the author time to develop the depth of the character's personality. However, many short stories do have characters that are complete from beginning to end.
6	Narrator: Sometimes, especially in humorous stories that are written as a series of adventures, a character may be well developed and interesting, yet seem to be frozen in a particular time in his or her life. He or she is predictably the same throughout the series.
7	Narrator: It looks like we're ready to get back underway. Just as competitors like to get into the heads of their opponents, Turner and Ava are about to learn how authors help readers get into heads of their characters.
8	Ava: I think I knew a guy like Luis at my old school. He turned out to be a great football player. Hey! Let's see what else the author has to say about Luis. Turner: Let's see.
9	Voice Over Turner: Luis wiped his sweaty hands on his pants, and took his place behind the line. The hands of the center, an always-steady senior, were shaking. "Even Bobby Monroe knows what a risk Coach is taking putting me in," Luis thought.



thinking ALOUD

Making Sense of Literacy



SPOT: Luis Garcia: End Zone Hero

Third Quarter

Characterization

(character's thoughts)



Scene	Full Transcript
9 continued	<p>Turner: He took a deep breath and made eye contact with Chris. Luis nodded as if to say, "Let's do it." Then he glanced up at the stands, where his parents, grandfather, and little brother sat. "I can't let them down," he thought.</p>
10	<p>Ava: He's got a lot on his mind in addition to the game.</p> <p>Turner: No kidding! In my writers workshop, Ms. Heeley said that another way authors reveal character traits is by describing a person's thoughts.</p>
11	<p>Voice Over I find more clues that Luis is nervous on the inside when I read "sweaty hands," and his thoughts about the "risk Coach is taking."</p> <p>Turner: But it seems like there was shift in Luis's thinking and a change his attitude when he takes a deep breath. When I read, "Let's do it" I'm thinking he is becoming more "confident."</p>
12	<p>Voice Over I noticed that too.</p> <p>Ava:</p> <p>Voice over Then when I read, "I can't let them down," I'm thinking that Luis is "reliable" and "trustworthy." Since these describe Luis's inner strengths, I should add these traits to the</p> <p>Turner: Private column.</p> <p>Voice Over That makes sense.</p> <p>Ava:</p>
13	<p>Narrator: Turner's comments come straight from the Knowledge Seeker's playbook, which states that skillful authors describe their character's thoughts. In doing so, they reveal the person's inner or true feelings. Readers are challenged to determine if they think the thoughts are accurate and to explore what may be the character's hidden side.</p>
14	<p>Narrator: (Horn) That's the end of the third quarter.</p> <p>Why don't you get into the game and become a Knowledge Seeker like Turner and Ava. Remember, authors reveal character traits through narration, character's conversation with others, and by sharing the character's thoughts. View <i>End Zone Hero: Others' Thoughts About the Character and Character in Action</i>. Keep Thinking Aloud!</p>