**Character Analysis**

Novel – Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White

Character – Wilbur

I used the following questions to help me write my analysis – I answered them and then I wrote my character analysis in paragraphs.

**How is the character first introduced by the author?**

We meet him when he is just a tiny piglet, and he is about to be killed by the farmer who owns him. This is because Wilbur was the runt of his litter pigs and he is weak, small and scared.

**What happens to this character in the story?**

At the beginning of the story, Wilbur does not do much and is looked after by Fern the farmer’s daughter, who treats him like a baby. As Wilbur becomes bigger he can no longer live with Fern and her family, and he moves to a new home, a barn on Fern’s uncle’s farm. He must now adjust to life among other animals rather than humans. He meets Charlotte, a spider who already lives in the barn and he develops with her, the most important relationship he will ever have. He soon becomes aware that he is being fattened up to be slaughtered – his new friend Charlotte hatches a plan to save him.

**What is his/her relation to the other characters?**

At the beginning of the story, Wilbur has a strong relationship with Fern, he relies on her and loves her very much. After he moves to the barn he develops an even more important relationship with Charlotte, she advises him on what to do and teaches him about life and death, friendship and sacrifice. Through his friendship with Charlotte, Wilbur comes to see that true friendship is all about unconditional love and self-sacrifice, and also learns about death when Charlotte dies.

**How would you describe the physical description of your character.**

Throughout the story Wilbur grows from a young piglet to a very well fed, fully grown pig. Despite being the runt of the litter, fully grown he would now be described as a fine looking pig. When being prepared for the county fair, his coat is clean and shiny. He is a pig any farmer would be proud of.

**How does your character speak?**

In the story the animals talk as a human would and Fern talks to Wilbur as if he is a human. Wilbur asks Charlotte lots of questions about the meaning of words.

**What is your character’s behaviour like?**

Wilbur is sensitive, emotional, and dramatic. At first he struggles to make friends with the other barnyard animals. He can get quite depressed and sad and finds it difficult to look on the bright side. After Charlotte saves him, and he returns from the county fair, he knows that he must be more like Charlotte. He will be more, fearless, kind and brave.

**Find a quote from the novel which backs up your character analysis.**

Wilbur lacks confidence and can be pessimistic.

*''I'm very young, I have no real friend here in the barn, it's going to rain all morning and all afternoon, and Fern won't come in such bad weather. Oh, honestly!'' And Wilbur was crying again, for the second time in two days.*