

CHARACTER RESUMES

What if a character from literature came to you and asked your help in writing a resume? What would you need to know to help that character get a job? The fictional character's resume would tell a potential employer why the character is right for a particular job in a one-page document. The character's resume would usually include these sections:

NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NUMBER
JOB OBJECTIVE
EDUCATION
JOB HISTORY
HOBBIES, CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
SPECIAL SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS
RELATED EXPERIENCES
REFERENCES

KEYS TO SUCCESS...

The key to writing a resume for your fictional character is to pick out the skills that the character has and then to present those skills in a way that will make the employer want to find out more.

Your character's resume does not need to include absolutely everything that has happened to him or her. Instead, focus on skills, knowledge, and personality traits that character has that will make him or her good employee.

As you search the story that you've read for things to add to your characters resume, pay attention to the things that your character says, knows, and does.

CHOOSING A JOB

When you choose a job for your fictional character to apply for, match the skills and abilities that the character has to the job. If the character is good with animals, for example (you probably wouldn't choose Lenny for a vet), he or she might make a good veterinarian or rancher. If the character is a good writer, she or he could apply for a job writing for a newspaper.

Whatever occupation you choose for your fictional character, be sure that the skills needed for the job match the skills that the character has demonstrated in the story. In additional, think about jobs that match the story's setting. If the story takes place during the Civil War, it won't make sense for the character to be a computer programmer.

USING DATES

Your character's resume should include dates that establish a history of the character's activities by answer questions like: When did the character go to school? When was the character employed?

What you add dates and related information, keep these tips in mind:

- Start with work history unless there is none; then start with educational background.
- Start with the most recent job or education and work backwards.
- Do not include the character's age or date of birth.

NAME: _____

PERIOD: _____

Character Resume' Rubric - 50 points

CATEGORY	5	4/3	2	1
IDEAS & CONTENT: Support for Job Application	Relevant, telling, quality details give the reader important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable.	Supporting details and information are relevant, but one key issue or portion of the character's qualifications is unsupported.	Supporting details and information are relevant, but several key issues or portions of the character's qualifications is unsupported.	Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the character's qualifications.
ORGANIZATION: Accuracy & Role	All information appeared to be accurate and in chronological order. Point-of-view, arguments, and solutions proposed were consistently in character.	Almost all information appeared to be accurate and in chronological order. Point-of-view, arguments, and solutions proposed were often in character.	Most of the information was accurate and in chronological order. Point-of-view, arguments, and solutions proposed were sometimes in character.	Very little of the information was accurate and/or in chronological order. Point-of-view, arguments, and solutions proposed were rarely in character.
WORD CHOICE	Writer uses strong, active words and phrases that draw pictures in the reader's mind, and the choice and placement of the words seems accurate, natural and not forced.	Writer uses strong, active words and phrases that draw pictures in the reader's mind, but occasionally the words are used inaccurately or seem overdone.	Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, punch or flair.	Writer uses a limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest. Jargon or cliches may be present and detract from the meaning.
Conventions (Grammar, Spelling, Capitalization, and Punctuation)	Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. Writer makes no errors in capitalization or punctuation, so the paper is exceptionally easy to read.	Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. Writer makes 1 or 2 errors in capitalization or punctuation, but the paper is still easy to read.	Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. Writer makes a few errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and interrupt the flow.	Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. Writer makes several errors in capitalization and/or punctuation that catch the reader's attention and greatly interrupt the flow.
PRESENTATION: Format	Complies with all the requirements for a job application letter and resume.	Complies with almost all the requirements for a job application letter and resume.	Complies with several of the requirements for a job application letter and resume..	Complies with less than 75% of the requirements for a job application letter and resume.

TOTAL POINTS EARNED: