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characterization noun

char·ac·ter·i·za·tion (ker-ik-t(ə)-rə-zā-shən) ,ka-rik-

: the act of **characterizing**
especially : the artistic representation (as in fiction or drama) of human character or motives
the author's *characterization* of the boy as someone who wanted to be accepted by others

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Examples of *characterization* in a Sentence

- The reporter was criticized for his **characterization** of the people of the town as poor and uneducated.
- News reporting requires accurate **characterization**.
- The class discussed the author's **characterization** of the boy as someone who wanted to be accepted by others.
- The story has good **characterization**.

Recent Examples on the Web

- Examples are automatically compiled from online sources to show current usage. Opinions expressed in the examples do not represent those of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#).
- Tournament director Stacey Allaster objects to that sort of **characterization**.
—Howard Fendrich, *Chicago Tribune*, 18 Aug. 2025
 - After being expelled from the Writers Guild of America Friday for allegedly violating strike rules, Park Chan-wook and his writing partner Don McKellar have pushed back on the union's **characterization** of their actions on *The Sympathizer* in 2023.
—Katie Campione, *Deadline*, 12 Aug. 2025
 - Strategic infrastructure connects instruments, lab information management systems (LIMS), synthesis and **characterization** equipment, and modeling platforms to create a unified data backbone.
—Akshay Talekar, *Forbes.com*, 11 Aug. 2025
 - But such **characterizations**, drenched in presentist moral narcissism, do a grave disservice to the reality on the ground and the countless lives Truman undoubtedly saved.
—Josh Hammer, *MSNBC Newsweek*, 8 Aug. 2025

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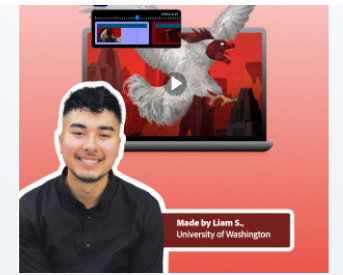
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Word History

Etymology

see [CHARACTER](#) entry 1

First Known Use

1841, in the meaning defined [above](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *characterization* was in 1841

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Phrases Containing *characterization*

[self-characterization](#)

Rhymes for *characterization*

acclimatisation	acclimatization	acidification
actualization	annualization	autocorrelation
autoregulation	beatification	beneficiation
biodegradation	biotransformation	bureaucratization

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Kids Definition

characterization noun

char-acter-i-za-tion (,kar-ik-tə-rē-'zā-shən «)»

- 1 : the act of characterizing
- 2 : the creation of characters (as in a book or play)

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Nglish: [Translation of *characterization* for Spanish Speakers](#)
Britannica.com: [Encyclopedia article about *characterization*](#)

Last Updated: 21 Aug 2025 - Updated example sentences

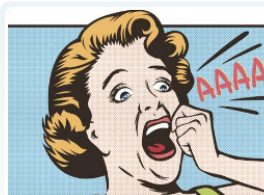
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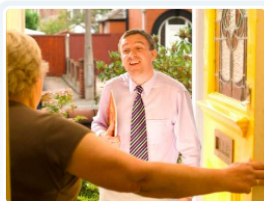
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Popular in Wordplay

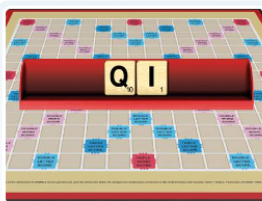
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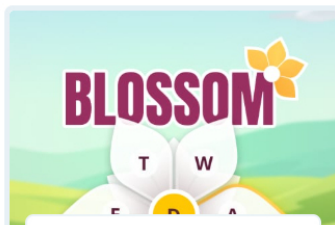
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