

# Archetypes in Literature

Instructions: Fill in the blanks and blank boxes in the first three columns based on the presentation.

Make sure you list ALL examples in the “teacher example” column. Then, fill in the last column with your own examples of each archetype.

Archetypes are images, situations, or \_\_\_\_\_ types that recur frequently and evoke strong \_\_\_\_\_ in the reader.

| Archetype       | Definition  | Teacher Example  | Your Example |
|-----------------|---|--|--------------|
| The Hero        |   |  |              |
|                 | A main character that doesn't usually have the traditional qualities expected of a hero. This character commonly possesses imperfections associated with antagonists. |  |              |
|                 |   | Dory: “Finding Nemo”<br>Pascal (the chameleon): “Tangled”<br>Olaf: “Frozen”                                |              |
| Loyal Companion |   |  |              |
|                 |   | Fairy Godmother: “Cinderella”<br>Molly Weasley: “Harry Potter”<br>Glind the Good Witch: “The Wizard of Oz” |              |
|                 | This character relies on the hero of the story to save her from her demise.   |  |              |

| Archetype          | Definition  | Teacher Example   | Your Example |
|--------------------|---|---|--------------|
| The Villain        |   |   |              |
|                    |   | Mr. Miyagi: "The Karate Kid"<br>Professor Dumbledore: "Harry Potter"<br>Yoda: "Star Wars"             |              |
| Threshold Guardian |   |   |              |
|                    |   | Effie Trinket: "The Hunger Games"<br>R2D2: "Star Wars"<br>Gandalf: "The Hobbit"                       |              |
|                    | <p>The shapeshifter blurs the lines between ally and enemy. Often they begin as an ally, then betray the hero at a critical moment. Other times, their loyalty is in question as they waver back and forth.</p> |   |              |
| Trickster          |   |   |              |
|                    | <p>Shadows are villains in the story. They exist to create conflict and a threat. They give the hero something to struggle against.</p>   |   |              |
|                    |   | Meg: "Hercules"<br>The White Witch: "The Chronicles of Narnia"<br>Sirens: "O' Brother Where Art Thou" |              |