*#5 What others say about them*

**In** life and fiction we learn about people from the things other say about them

**We** need to corroborate the testimony or we risk forming wrong conclusion based on

Rumor

Prejudice

malice

emotionalism

misperception

EX-"Sahli is a jerk" *malice* UNLESS

"Sahli is a jerk; he marked me tardy and I was only 7 minutes late."

**Characters** are continually testifying about other characters.

**It** is the reader's job to evaluate the testimony and the writer's job to make sure that it can be evaluated properly....Some are more trustworthy than others

EX Haircut

**The** kind of information and the context affect how we evaluate the testimony

**The** most trustworthy things characters say about other characters are factual statements that do not affect our opinions

Read the story “Haircut” linked on web page and on TEAMS site. Respond to the questions at the end of the story. You can copy and paste that final page into a new document and address those questions on a file and get it to me.

*#6 How they act in response to specific situations*

**All** of us are tested from time to time, and how we respond to a test not only illustrates our character but affects it.

**Most** fiction shows characters in critical situations

**especially** true of short stories

**Short** stories are often all in crisis situations

**How** characters act in that situation creates character

*#7 How They Act Habitually*

**Repeated**, habitual actions form a large part of how we get to know people and ourselves.

**More** important in real life than in fiction UNLESS

**Habitual** actions define character....Harold Crick

**Habitual** actions are center of conflict....Harold Crick

**Habitual** actions are discarded as a result of conflict....Harold Crick

*#8 Their Thoughts*

**Real** life we only know our own thoughts..thank goodness

**Fiction** can present thoughts of every character involved

**Including** thought of characters can be useful

**Including** thoughts of characters can be detrimental

**Author's** choice to include or exclude is a matter of choice and feel for the character rather than a rule

READ “Miss Brill” and address the questions at the end of the story. Copy and paste those questions into a new document and type and save that document. Please remove the story from your file please before you send it to me.