

Comparing and Contrasting Characters through Dialogue

DIRECTIONS: The characters Eliza and William introduce themselves below. Pay careful attention both to what they say, and to how they say it.

1.

Well aren't you just as refreshing as sweet tea on a summer Sunday! I *am* charmed to meet you! I'm Eliza.



It's a pleasure to make your acquaintance. My name is William.



Which word best describes Eliza? _____

- A) stuck-up B) friendly C) serious

2. Which word best describes William? _____

- A) casual B) rude C) proper

3. Where do you think Eliza might be from? _____

- A) France B) the Midwest C) the South

4. Where do you think William might be from? _____

- A) Mexico B) New England C) the South

5. Now read the read the short story about Eliza and William below. Keep in mind the way that each Eliza and William introduced themselves above. What is wrong with the story?

Eliza backed carefully out of the parking space, and suddenly, SLAM! She had been hit! She turned off her engine and leapt out of the car. "Well what are you, trying to qualify for the Indy 500?" she demanded. "I beg your pardon," William said, stepping from the driver's side of his Mercedes. "You hit me." "Quite to the contrary," Eliza said. "I am the victim here." "Victim?" William scoffed. "Victim is a bit of a hyperbole, don't you think?" "Now you look here, just because you're as happy as a tick on a fat dog sittin' there in that fancy car doesn't mean you can plow into the back of me and say it's my fault!"