Give each student a picture of a student around their age.   
  
Have students glue the picture in their Writer’s Notebook. Under the picture, have students follow steps 1-3.  
Model each step with your own picture before students do the step with their character.   
1. Name your character. First, Middle, Last  
2. Infer 3 things about your character and support it with evidence from the picture.   
3. List 5 things your character despises/hates/abhors. And why.  
  
Students will get their Writer’s Notebook and share their character so far with a partner. If they shared yesterday, they will share with a different partner.   
  
Model with your own character steps 4-7. After each step, students will complete the step in their own Writer’s Notebook.   
4. List 5 things your character loves/adores/cherishes. And why.  
5. Immediate family.   
6. Parents, step-parents. Relationship. Legacy. Inherited traits.   
7. Grandparents. Inherited tendencies. Stories. Legacies.  
  
  
Students will get their Writer’s Notebook and share their character so far with a partner. If they shared yesterday, they will share with a different partner.   
  
Model with your own character steps 8-11. After each step, students will complete the step in their own Writer’s Notebook.   
  
8. Date of photograph. D/M/Y. Location of the photograph. Age of your character at the taking of the photograph. Birthdate. D/M/Y. Birthplace.  
9. Heart’s greatest desire.  
10. Greatest fear.  
11.Character’s closet  
Shoes/footwear  
Clothing/outerwear  
Chest of drawers (can be secured with a lock)–valuables, secrets  
iPod – play list  
books/videos  
  
Students will get their Writer’s Notebook and share their character so far with a partner. If they shared yesterday, they will share with a different partner.   
  
Model with your own character step 12. After each step, students will complete the step in their own Writer’s Notebook.   
  
12. Create a timeline.

Add various encounters (your character meets your family or your character meets the president- include dialogue) with the character.

Add various plot starts (your character is standard on a deserted island or your character is accused of a crime he SAYS he didn't commit).