

NEA: creative writing

Use the following formula to construct professional character bios.

Step	Example
1 Step 1: talk about the actor playing the character, mention previous roles and successes.	Leonardo Di Caprio, returns to his Oscar winning form as the worn out war veteran, Johnny Small...
2 Step 2: Describe essential details of the character: physical description, occupation, family position or where they live.	...an ex-marine, who's life spirals out of control when he returns to his home town following his last tour of Iraq. Alone and desperate, Johnny drifts from bar to bar, a small-town drunk who tells anyone who might buy him a drink the sorry tale of his gulf war heroics.
3 Step 3: give essential back story:	Years before, Johnny left high school as a gifted athlete and a promising football player, but is forced to join the marines to avoid jail time. However, Johnny's service is exemplary - awarded a Medal of Honour after defending his desert outpost single-handed when an insurgent attack massacres his platoon.
4 Step 4: inject motivation and conflict	Afterwards, Johnny returns to his hometown of Springfield only to find that his mother was been tragically killed by a drink driver during his last tour. Scarred by his Iraq ordeal and grieving his departed mother, Johnny has nothing to live for, at least not until he meets Nadia, an ex-con trying to turn her life around after serving a two year narcotics sentence.
5 Step 5: Write a review quote - using magazine or newspapers titles that construct cultural capital for your audience	"De Di Caprio biggest role since The Wolf of Wall Street" - the Guardian.



Todorov NEA application: use equilibrium and disequilibrium to produce story interest in character bios. Create character crisis to kickstart narratives. Use character backstory to suggest a long-lost state of equilibrium

Media Theory for A Level

Use the five step formula to create your own character bio

Step	My character bio
Step 1: talk about the actor playing the character, mention previous roles and successes.	
Step 2: Describe essential details of the character: physical description, occupation, family position or where they live.	
Step 3: give essential back story	
Step 4: inject motivation and conflict	
Step 5: Write a review quote - using magazine or newspapers that will produce cultural capital for your audience	