

from I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS

COPY MASTER

Text Analysis

CHARACTERIZATION IN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

When describing an important individual they have known, writers of **autobiography** often make use of the same methods of **characterization** as fiction writers do. These methods are listed in the following chart.

Directions: In the chart, write examples of each method of characterization Angelou used to reveal Mrs. Flowers’s personality traits. Then answer the question that follows.

Methods of Characterization	Examples
Description of a person’s physical appearance	“She was thin without the taut look of wiry people.” (line 7)
Examples of the person’s speech, thoughts, or feelings.	
The speech, thoughts, or feelings of other people	
The narrator’s comments about the person	

Which would you say is the most powerful method used to characterize Mrs. Flowers? Use examples from the chart to support your answer.
