Writing Style: The Importance of Characters

1. Go to the WRC reception desk and ask to check out Joseph M. Williams' Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace. You will need a driver's license or other photo identification to check this book out for use in the WRC.

2. Read the first part of lesson 4, found on pages 53-59.

3. Answer the following questions about your reading on a separate sheet of paper:
   a. What is a verb?
   b. Why should writers use action verbs in their sentences?
   c. What is a character?
   d. How do you diagnose problems with characters?
   e. How does the reading recommend dealing with abstract characters?

4. Now is a good time to STOP and visit an instructor or a tutor to review your answers. Write any questions you may have below before you go, and get a signature when you finish.

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____________________________________________________________________________

Instructor name __________________________ Date _______________

Once you are ready, go on to #5.

5. Complete exercise 4.1 on page 60.

6. Before reviewing your answers with an instructor or tutor, use the space below to write any questions you still have about subjects, verbs, and nominalizations:

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____________________________________________________________________________

7. Bring the book and your completed exercises to an instructor or tutor to review. Have that person sign and date this sheet.

____________________________________________________________________________

Instructor/Tutor signature __________________________ Date _______________

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