

## Examples of a Character Description



### The Gruffalo

The Gruffalo has two large, curved horns at the top of his head. He has bright orange eyes and a slimy, black tongue. The Gruffalo has an enormous, poisonous wart on the end of his wet nose. Running all down his back are sharp pointed prickles. His claws are as sharp as razors but his teeth are blunt and brittle. His fur feels as soft as a cotton wool but it is matted and tangled. He has knobbly knees and turned out toes. His feet are gigantic and he stomps through the forest whilst swishing his long bushy tail. The animals are scared of him because he is so terrifyingly large.

From *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J. K. Rowling (Scholastic, 1998)

He was a big, beefy man with hardly any neck, although he did have a very large moustache. Mrs. Dursley was thin and blonde and had nearly twice the usual amount of neck, which came in very useful as she spent so much of her time craning over garden fences, spying on the neighbours.

A giant of a man was standing in the doorway. His face was almost completely hidden by a long, shaggy mane of hair and a wild, tangled beard, but you could make out his eyes, glinting like black beetles under all the hair.

## The Book Shop Owner

The book shop, once vibrant with customers, was empty of life aside from its owner. Terry sat hunched in the semi-darkness amongst the many characters and their worlds which had brought such colour to his own. Trenches etched on his forehead told the story of his life. His body bent and sore, hair receding and thin, Terry was a relic, like his shop, no longer relevant to the modern world. He pulled his filthy fleece closer round his shoulders, the collar of his checked shirt stuck out, a flash of colour out of place in such a dreary setting. His beard, patched and wiry jutted out from his chin. Yet, despite the gloominess surrounding him, Terry was enveloped in another world. In his aged hands he held a friend and, in his mind, he was not in a closed, failed bookstore and he himself was not a frail, feeble man: he was off on an adventure, in another world and was transformed himself.

## Wolf

An enormous white wolf was walking stiffly towards them on its hind legs. It was dressed in armour and a red cape, which swished lazily around the creature's furred feet. Its eyes were a burning orange, and a glint around its mouth gave the merest suggestion of sharp fangs.

The wolf stopped directly in front of the small boy and gazed down at him, amber eyes bulging. "Who is this?" she growled.

The boy held his breath as the wolf prowled around him in a circle, looking him up and down. She had long, grey streaks in the fur on her nose.