Character Recipe
Mr. Coia
English 5-6

Objective: You will demonstrate your understanding of a character by “creating” them in a recipe form. Imagine that you were to cook up that character. I’m asking you to record what comprises that person.

Preparation Tips:

Prewriting
1. Select a character from the literary work you are currently devouring.
2. List character traits and descriptions as they appear in the novel, short story, biography, etc.
3. Determine and list events or forces that they believe helped shape the character.
4. Look at a few recipes from magazines to see how they are written.

Writing
Create a recipe that the author might have used to develop the character they have selected. Baste themselves in creative juices every so often.

Revising
Stir. Add ingredients. Check to make sure preparation instructions are clear and in logical order.

Proofreading
Check spelling, abbreviations for measurements, and that preparation instructions are delivered using imperative sentences (if you don’t know what one is, find out!).

Here’s an example:
SAMPLE STUDENT RECIPE
Recipe for Pearl Prynne Pie (The Scarlet Letter)

Ingredients:

2 cups Beauty
4 tablespoons Scandal
3 teaspoons Mystery
1/2 cup Regret
4 pints Scorn (use “Boston” brand)
5 drops Scarlet food coloring

Directions
Gather all ingredients. Start Beauty and mix Scandal deep into the middle of it. Beat until mixed. Heat the 3 teaspoons of Mystery until it comes to a boil Pour into mixture. Next add 1/2 cup of regret (mix until all clumps are smooth). Then the Scorn is stirred throughout. Bake for nine months. Make sure to set the oven at zero degrees for no added warmth. Then add the attention-grabbing Scarlet coloring. Result: one disgraced baby girl.

Preparation Time: 9 Months

Serves: 1 Mother
Reverend Hale’s Puritan Turnovers

Ingredients:

3 cups Religious Fervor (Puritan flavor)
1 cup Fear of Authorities
1 bunch Books Weighted with Authority
3 heaping tablespoons Pride
2 cups Faulty Logic
3 drops Yellow food coloring
pinch of Truth
1 pint Compassion
sprinkle Guilt
1 piece Rope

Directions:

Start with Religious Fervor and Books Weighted with Authorities. Knead until thoroughly mixed. Slowly fold in Faulty Logic, one chunk at a time. Sprinkle Pride over mixture and blend until thoroughly combined. Place in a hot Salem kettle. When mixture is in the heat, the backbone will be exposed. Carefully remove and discard. Add Yellow food coloring.

During cooking, mixture will slowly turn colors. Carefully add Truth. The yellow color will fade, giving way to a vibrant color. The Pride in the mixture will shrink, giving way to a healthier formation. Add Compassion. The Turnovers will remove themselves from the heat. Serve on a plain dish, garnished with a portion of Rope.

Preparation Time: Three months

Serves: Two people: Elizabeth and John Proctor. Perhaps not quite enough for either.