

"The Overcoat" by Nikolai Gogol translated by Andrew R. MacAndrew

Be ready to discuss the text the first day of class.

Directions:

-Print and read "The Overcoat."

-Color mark the text. Your key should be included.

-Mark the following vocabulary words in the text, and define them in the margins:

imperiled - destroyed

clerk - person employed to keep records

conscientiously - wishing to do what is right

peddlers - person who sells stolen goods

refuse - garbage

whist - card game

Privy - private confidential

mete - dispense

impious - showing no respect

skein - thread loosely coiled and knotted

beseechingly - pleading; imploring

libations - drink

marten - weasel-like mammal

samovar - a tea kettle

halberd - weapon

repute - opinion or reputation

ape - imitate

snuffbox - small box for holding snuff, or pulverized tobacco

cabbies - cab drivers

As you read, think about the Guiding Question: How does the author's use of characterization contribute to the theme of the text?