

Character Analysis Examples

Character	Satirical characteristic	Comment or criticism made about contemporary society through the character
Homer	<p>Homer holds the record at the nuclear power plant for the most years worked at an entry-level position. (Note that in the opening segment he finds a uranium rod in his shirt and throws it out the window of his car).</p> <p>The advice he gives his children is often misguided and ridiculous. For example, when Bart asks, "How important is it to be popular?" Homer responds by saying, "Being popular is the most important thing in the world."</p>	Homer's character represents some of the most destructive vices in our society: laziness, apathy and ignorance.
Marge	<p>Her hair is exaggerated in height and color. She always wears pearls, a dress, and nice shoes.</p> <p>Unlike Homer, she worries about the family's morality and the children's behavior. She is often seen reading a magazine called <i>Fretful Mother</i>.</p>	These examples reflect the impact of modern society on women.
Lisa	<p>Lisa acts as the moral center of the family, surpassing even her father and mother in her often exaggerated morality.</p> <p>She is often portrayed as being intellectually beyond her age of eight years old. For example, she listens to jazz and is quick to identify sexual stereotypes and examples of mindless consumerism.</p>	Adults often overlook the intelligence and wisdom of children.
Montgomery Burns	<p>His physical features have been exaggerated to the point that he resembles a vulture.</p> <p>His actions include blackmailing the entire town of Springfield by completely blocking out their access to the sun.</p>	These exaggerations of his character comment on how capitalism can lead individuals to become greedy and corrupt.
Itchy and Scratchy	<p>These characters star in cartoons with titles that are parodies of television and movie titles. Examples include <i>Scar Trek: The Next Laceration</i>, <i>Def Comedy Blam!</i> and <i>Four Funerals and A Wedding</i>.</p> <p>These cartoon shorts are extremely violent. For example in <i>Scar Trek: The Next Laceration</i>, Scratchy's body is chopped up by the rings of Saturn, and they float away and burn up in the planet's atmosphere.</p>	This show mocks the extreme violence that is found in many contemporary children's cartoons.