

Name:

Teacher:

Class:

Date:

MOTIVATION CHART

Character **motivations** are important because they influence what characters do and how they interact with other characters. It's important to think about the **real reasons** behind why the characters do what they do. Consider the passage below about Jing-mei's mother in "Two Kinds":

She had come here in 1949 after losing everything in China: her mother and father, her family home, her first husband, and two daughters, twin baby girls. But she never looked back with regret. There were so many ways for things to get better.

The above passage illustrates the **motivation** behind the mother's actions in the story - **She wants things to get better.**

Task: Complete the Motivation Chart below. Read each detail from the text on the left and then decide what was the motivation behind the action. Ask yourself - What was the real reason the character performed this action? (2 sentences minimum)

<u>Details From the Story:</u> Action Performed or Words Spoken	<u>Elaborations/Opinions:</u> What is the real reason the Character performed this action or spoke these words?
Jing-mei went to the beauty school to get her hair styled like Shirley Temple.	
Jing-mei looks in the mirror and begins to cry, making high-pitched noises like a crazed animal, trying to scratch out her face.	
Jing-mei cries, "Why don't you like me the way I am?" "I'm not a genius! I can't play the piano."	
Jing-mei doesn't practice enough at the piano. Instead, she hits the wrongs notes and never corrects herself.	