"The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allan Poe

Character Motivation: Calculated Killer or Mentally Insane?

**Directions:** As you read the “The Tell-Tale Heart,” write down specific details/lines from the text that show the narrator’s motivation for killing the old man, then telling on himself. Then, check the appropriate box that corresponds with whether the text is direct or indirect characterization, and whether the text is proves he is mentally insane or a calculated killer.

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<tr>
<th>Details from Text (Quote)</th>
<th>Paragraph #</th>
<th>Characterization (check box)</th>
<th>Proves that the narrator is... (check box)</th>
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**Conflict**

- Man vs. Man:
- Man vs. Society:
- Man vs. Self:

**Literary Elements**

- Mood (what feelings does this story generate in its readers):
- Imagery (what images does the author create that help set the mood):
Highlight or circle the most suspenseful section of the story.

Fill in the plot diagram as you read!

- **Title:** 
- **Author:**

**RISING ACTION**
(List examples that create complications or suspense)

**CONFLICT**

**PROTAGONIST vs. ANTAGONIST**

- PROTAGONIST: ____________________
- ANTAGONIST: ____________________

**EXPOSITION**

- **Setting:**
- **Situation/climate:**
- **Characters:**

**FALLING ACTION**

**RESOLUTION**

**THEME:**