

## Character descriptions

Look at the descriptions below which are of some of the characters Alex Rider meets.  
Decide which description you think fits with which character:

Smithers	... wearing a polyester suit with a Marks & Spencer tie. He had the sort of face you forget even while you're looking at it ...
Herod Sayle	... broad-shouldered and square, with blond hair twisted into the tightest of curls. She had a strangely blank, moon-shaped face, wire-framed spectacles, and no makeup except for a smear of yellow lipstick.
Yassen Gregorovich	In his immaculate and expensive black suit with gold signet ring and brightly polished black shoes ... His skin was dark and his teeth flashed when he smiled. He had a round, bald head and very horrible eyes. The gray pupils were too small, surrounded on all sides by white.
John Crawley	She had a large, potato-shaped head and her black hair looked as if it had been cut using a pair of blunt scissors and upturned bowl. Her eyes were almost as black as her hair.
Nadia Vole	Gray suit, gray hair, gray lips, and gray eyes. His face was expressionless, the eyes behind the square, gunmetal spectacles, completely empty.
Mrs Jones	... the sleek dancer's body and the close-cropped hair of the man ... He was dressed in gray overalls and sneakers. He was smiling.
Alan Blunt	When he sat down, the metal chair disappeared beneath the spread of his buttocks ... He was bald with a black mustache and several chins, each one melting into the next and finally into his neck and shoulders. He wore a pin-striped suit, which must have used enough material to make a tent.

*Stormbreaker.* © Anthony Horowitz, 2000

After you have matched up each of the characters with the correct paragraph make a list of all the common features of Horowitz's descriptions. For example, does Horowitz always comment on what the character likes to eat? Does he always depict a particular physical attribute? Which descriptions do you think are the most effective and why? Without looking back at the text write a character profile of Alex, remembering to comment on the common features you have picked out here.