

Content Frame/Character Chart

The content frame is a strategy to help students analyze the interrelationships of ideas. Frames, or matrices, help students organize and compare information from a variety of texts, including textbook information, visual texts, fiction, and nonfiction. A content frame/matrix is built with categories or types of information listed on the left-hand side of a chart and subdivisions of the categories listed across the top of the chart. It is important for students to create their own frame/matrix in order to use the strategy independently. If a teacher simply duplicates the frame to have students fill in the boxes, the strategy ceases to be a strategy for independent use and becomes nothing but a worksheet. Content frames can be used across the curriculum, but they are excellent for use in the English Language Arts classroom for character analysis and theme analysis.

Content Frame

Genetic Disorder	Chromosome Error	Dominant or Recessive	Symptoms (How it Affects a Person)
Albinism			
Cystic Fibrosis			
Tay-Sachs Disease			
Sickle-Cell Anemia			
Phenylketonuria (PKU)			
Huntington Disease			

Character Chart

Character	Personality Traits	Actions that Support Trait	Conversations by or about the Character that Illustrate Trait