**Character**

Try to answer these six fundamental questions about all the most important characters in your story:

* What do they **want** – this is the external goal they’re aiming for, eg to win the race, to get the girl, to defeat the monster, to find the buried treasure etc. The antagonist is in the way of this (or, if the character *is* the antagonist, then the protagonist is in the way). e.g. Darth Vader wants to rule the Galaxy
* What do they **need** – this is an internal transformation which they may not even be aware that they need, e.g. love, to learn to ask for help, to be their true self, to be less arrogant, to be more confident, to learn to trust someone, to stand up for what’s right, to see their own or someone else’s worth etc. Darth Vader needs to remember he was once a good person
* What is the **lie** they believe – this is the reason they have to be transformed. E.g. they believe they are worthless, powerless, guilty of something, unlovable etc, or maybe they believe that one person can’t make a difference, that boys don’t cry, that winning/money/popularity is all that matters, or that people can’t be trusted etc. Darth Vader believes that power is all that matters
* What is their **‘ghost’ or ‘wound’** – this is something that happened in their past (probably long before this story even started) and it’s the reason they believe the lie. E.g. someone once betrayed them and now they believe that people can’t be trusted, or their parents rejected them and now they feel no one could ever love them, their dad yelled at them for crying and now they think boys shouldn’t show emotion, etc. Darth Vader was once a slave with no power who couldn’t save his mother from slavery so now he believes power is all that matters
* What **flaw** results from their lie – as a result of their lie they will behave in a certain way, e.g. if they believe people are not trustworthy, they may be hostile and keep people at a distance. If they believe they aren’t worthy of love they may be very shy and try to hide. If they believe winning is everything they may be arrogant and competitive. Darth Vader becomes a power-hungry tyrant and bully
* What **truth** will they discover – this is the opposite of their lie, and finding it out will transform forever their behaviour and their life. E.g. they discover that there’s more to life than money/popularity, or that they *are* capable of making a difference or being brave etc. Once they know this truth, it will help them to fix their flaw and either achieve their original goal (their ‘want’) or see that they don’t need it after all. Darth Vader discovers that his son’s life matters more to him than power (so he stops being a bully and gives up his original power-hungry goal by killing the Emperor)

Use this info to develop your plot.