

## Stage 2: Define

### (Student Example)

#### Who is this person?

**Othello** is a Moorish general hired by the Venetians to fight the Turkish army. Despite his noble position in Venice, he realizes his racial and cultural differences from other Venetians. His wife, Desdemona, who is beautiful and much younger than him, is a main source of his insecurity.

**Iago** is a Venetian ensign who appears funny, smart, and likable on the surface while hiding hatred towards everyone around him. His rhetorical intelligence and aptitude in manipulation make him very dangerous.

#### What is it like to be them?

Othello's position and pride in his social position as a general make him keep everything to himself, including insecurity and anguish. Instead of having an open conversation with his wife, he feels like he has to figure things out as a man.

Iago's position relies on the social hierarchy that he is not able to change. His last resource in gaining power lies in his ability to read others and to manipulate them.

#### What are they trying to achieve?

**Othello:** To maintain a position of power.

**Iago:** To gain a position of power.