

## Foils in Mango Street

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### What is a foil?



- ▶ a character that has characteristics that oppose another character, usually the protagonist

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### What is a foil?

- ▶ The foil character may be completely opposite to the protagonist, or very similar with one key difference.

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### Why is a foil used?



- ▶ The foil character is used to highlight some particular quality or qualities of the main character.

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### Is a foil an antagonist? Not always!



- ▶ The key difference between the foil and antagonist is that the antagonist's actions oppose the protagonist while the foil's character is in opposition to the protagonist.

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### This presentation included several examples of foils

- ▶ Marlin and Dory
- ▶ Lightning McQueen and Mater
- ▶ Sherlock Holmes and John Watson
- ▶ Carly and Sam

**Can you think of any examples in a book, movie, or show you enjoy?**

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Watch the clip again. Then, on your notes, explain how Dory (blue fish) is a foil of Marlin (clown fish).

- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVYYr0KEBlg>
- ▶ <http://viewpure.com/aVYYr0KEBlg?start=0&end=0>

- ▶ How would the scene have been different if Marlin had been swallowed by the whale alone?
- ▶ What qualities in Marlin does Dory accentuate?

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### House On Mango Street

- ▶ What character could be a foil to Esperanza so far?
- ▶ What qualities of Esperanza are shown through this character?

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