Who is Who in Cyrano de Bergerac

Use the following chart to map out the characters in the play.

What are we directly told about the character do or say that alerts us to some character trait? Cyrano de Bergerac Christian de Neuvillette Count de Guiche Le Bret Lignière	Character	DIRECT CHARACTERIZATION	Indirect Characterization
Cyrano de Bergerac Christian de Neuvillette Roxane Count de Guiche Le Bret		What are we directly told about the	What does the character do or say that alerts us
Cyrano de Bergerac Christian de Neuvillette Roxane Count de Guiche Le Bret			
Roxane Count de Guiche Le Bret			
Count de Guiche Le Bret			
Guiche Le Bret	Roxane		
Lignière	Le Bret		
	Lignière		
Ragueneau	Ragueneau		
Lise	Lise		

Cyrano de Bergerac Questions: Act 1 Answer the following questions, using examples from the text when necessary.

1. How does Rostand use Act I to develop the setting/time period, values of the time, and the main character.
2. What does Captain Le Bret say happens to anyone who makes fun of Cyrano's nose? What do you learn about Cyrano from this information?
3. What is Le Bret's advice to Cyrano regarding his love for his cousin? What is Cyrano's reaction to the advice? Do you think this is a normal reaction? Why or why not?
4. How does Rostand prepare the audience for Cyrano's first entrance? Do you feel this is an effective technique? Why or why not?
5. In response to the question about where his life will lead, Cyrano tells Le Bret, "I've decided to excel in everything." What does this reveal about Cyrano? Do you think such an attitude is realistic in everyday life? Why or why not?
HW: Find lines that concern physical appearance and inner worth.

Cyrano de Bergerac Questions: Act 2
Answer the following questions, using examples from the text when necessary.

1. At what moment does Cyrano realize that Roxanne is talking about someone else? What does this reveal about Cyrano?
2. What does Christian's rude comments to Cyrano about his nose reveal about Christian? How does Cyrano react? What does this reaction reveal about Cyrano?
3. What arrangement does Cyrano make with Christian regarding Roxane? Why do you suppose Cyrano suggests this arrangement?
4. Do you think Cyrano is boastful or cocky? Why or why not? Provide examples as support.
5. What did you find funny in this section of the play? Describe the incident(s).

Cyrano de Bergerac Questions: Act 3
Answer the following questions, using examples from the text when necessary.

1. Analyze how Rostand uses Act III to introduce several new complications to the story: Roxanne and de Guiche, Christian's ill attempt to speak his own words, Cyrano's sacrifice to stall de Guiche
2. How would you describe Cyrano's emotions as he speaks for Christian to Roxane? How can you tell? Why might he have mixed feelings about what he is doing?
3. How does Cyrano keep de Guiche from interrupting the wedding? What do you learn about Cyrano from the method he chooses?
4. Having read the conversation between Roxane and de Guiche, how would you describe Roxane's attitude toward him? How does Rostand (the playwright) communicate Roxane's true feelings to the audience without making them clear to de Guiche?

Cyrano de Bergerac Questions: Act 4
Answer the following questions, using examples from the text when necessary.

1. What realization does Roxane finally come to about Christian? How does this realization affect him?
2. What does Christian urge Cyrano to do? In your opinion, what are his reasons? What makes you think this?
3. What do you think would be Roxane's reaction if she were to learn the truth about Christian and Cyrano and her relationship with them?
4. Describe Roxane's character so far. Do you feel that she is worthy of Cyrano's love? Of Christian's? Why or why not?
5. What were your feelings at the end of the act as Cyrano leads the cadets into battle? Do you think Cyrano will survive the battle?

Cyrano de Bergerac Questions: Act 5
Answer the following questions, using examples from the text when necessary.

1. What information does de Guiche give to Le Bret about Cyrano? Why do you suppose Cyrano's old enemy has told Le Bret about the danger?
2. How does Roxane finally learn that it was Cyrano who wrote the letters and has loved her all along? Do you think she is surprised? Evaluate her reaction.
3. How does Rostand use natural imagery to create the mood in the last scene? Evaluate the use of this technique. Is it effective? Appropriate? Why?
4. What has Cyrano accomplished by the end of his life? For what will he be most known?
5. How do you feel about Cyrano by the end of the play? Do you admire or pity him? Do you think he was a strong or a weak person in how he lived? In the way he withheld and hid his true feelings?