

***The Miracle Worker* Five-Paragraph Essay:**

**Analyzing Character**

* **Typed Rough Draft** due **Thursday, February 6, 2020**
* **Final Typed, Edited Essay** due **Monday, February 10, 2020**

Record due dates in your planner!

**GENERAL GUIDELINES:**

* **MLA Header/Format**
* **Times New Roman, 12-point Type, Double Spaced**
* **Third-person, Present Tense**
* **Formal Language and Tone**

**Character traits** are valued aspects of a person's behavior. Everyone has character traits, both good and bad, including our favorite fictional characters. Character traits are often labeled with descriptive adjectives such as **patient**, **faithful**, or **jealous**.

Characters, much like actual people, have traits that influence how they relate to others, how they learn, and how they accomplish goals. Think for a minute about certain traits (both negative and positive) that various characters exhibit in *The Miracle Worker*: intelligence, adventurousness, persistence, laziness, optimism, impatience, selfishness, kindness, acceptance, resignation, abrasiveness, protectiveness, pessimism, loyalty, or jealousy are just a few to think about.

Prompts

1. **What single trait of Annie Sullivan’s allows her to break through to Helen?** For this prompt, first identify the trait and then craft your thesis statement. Next, identify supporting details and quotations that support your argument.

2. **What single trait of Helen Keller’s allows her to finally understand how to communicate with Annie (and others)?** For this prompt, first identify the trait and then craft your thesis statement. Next, identify supporting details and quotations that support your argument.

3. **What single trait of Captain Keller’s most affects his relationships with others?** For this prompt, first identify the trait that has the biggest impact on Keller’s relationships and then craft your thesis statement. Next, identify supporting details and quotations that support your argument.

**Five-Paragraph EssayOutline**

1. Introduction
2. Hook (Get your reader’s attention)
3. Set-up; introduce author and text
4. Set-up; introduce theme of essay
5. LSU thesis
6. POA (one sentence containing ideas in parallel form)
7. Body Paragraph 1
8. Topic sentence, which must align with the first point in your POA
9. Set-up sentences which contain concrete details and commentary
10. Integrated quotation from the text
11. Quotation may be integrated in a number of ways; use variety in the way you integrate quotations
12. Quotation MUST be relevant to your topic sentence and thesis; choose quotations with care
13. Parenthetical citation
14. Analysis of quotation
15. Stay on topic with analysis; explain the quotation and its significance (hint: the significance is often abstract rather than concrete)
16. Write 2-3 sentences of analysis in order to make sure you thoroughly analyze the quotation
17. **Do NOT begin your analysis with any version of “This quote shows…”**
18. Write a transition sentence that bridges the ideas in body paragraph 1 to body paragraph 2
19. Body Paragraph 2
20. Topic sentence, which must align with the second point in your POA
21. Set-up sentences which contain concrete details and commentary
22. Integrated quotation from the text
23. Quotation may be integrated in a number of ways; use variety in the way you integrate quotations
24. Quotation MUST be relevant to your topic sentence and thesis; choose quotations with care
25. Parenthetical citation
26. Analysis of quotation
27. Stay on topic with analysis; explain the quotation and its significance (hint: the significance is often abstract rather than concrete)
28. Write 2-3 sentences of analysis in order to make sure you thoroughly analyze the quotation
29. **Do NOT begin your analysis with any version of “This quote shows…”**
30. Write a transition sentence that bridges the ideas in body paragraph 2 to body paragraph 3
31. Body Paragraph 3
32. Topic sentence, which must align with the third point in your POA
33. Set-up sentences which contain concrete details and commentary
34. Integrated quotation from the text
35. Quotation may be integrated in a number of ways; use variety in the way you integrate quotations
36. Quotation MUST be relevant to your topic sentence and thesis; choose quotations with care
37. Parenthetical citation
38. Analysis of quotation
39. Stay on topic with analysis; explain the quotation and its significance (hint: the significance is often abstract rather than concrete)
40. Write 2-3 sentences of analysis in order to make sure you thoroughly analyze the quotation
41. **Do NOT begin your analysis with any version of “This quote shows…”**
42. Write a conclusion sentence that sums up your ideas in body paragraph 3
43. Concluding paragraph
44. Re-phrase thesis and POA without copying exactly
45. State the overall significance of the essay (the “so what?”)
46. Offer a final related question or thought about the topic of the essay
47. Work Cited entry. For example, **Gibson, William. *The Miracle Worker*. Scribner, 2008**.