

## Directions for Character Analysis Essay:

1. Write a five paragraph rough draft and essay by following the directions below.
2. You will be expected to *proofread* your rough draft, edit your work by making revisions on the rough draft, and *rewrite* a clean final copy. You may type the essay, but the revisions must be completed by hand. If you type the rough draft, print it out, make the revisions by hand on the rough draft, make the corrections on the typed copy, print it out, and turn in both the rough draft with revisions and the final draft. (Use 14 Arial font and double space).
3. You will be graded on your rough draft, revisions and final copy of this essay.

YOU MUST ALWAYS USE PRESENT TENSE WHEN WRITING ABOUT LITERATURE. YOU MUST NEVER USE "YOU" OR "I" IN YOUR ESSAY. FOR EXAMPLE, INSTEAD OF SAYING, "YOU CAN SEE..." , SAY "ONE CAN SEE..." YOU ARE WRITING FROM AN OBJECTIVE, THIRD-PERSON POINT OF VIEW. NEVER SAY, "I AM GOING TO WRITE ABOUT..." ~~YOU ARE THE EXPERT.~~ WRITE AS IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE "TALKING ABOUT".

**Essay Assignment:** Select a character from either *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan and write an essay answering the following questions about him or her. Be sure to *specifically* answer each question in each paragraph.

*Paragraph 1:* Who is your selected character? ( You must state the name of the work, its author , the character's name, and what you intend to prove about this character.)

Example: In *The Odyssey* by Homer, the character of Odysseus endures horrific trials and hardships on his quest for home. Many of these hardships might have been prevented but for his insatiable curiosity which destroys his crew and keeps him from his family for an additional ten years following the Trojan War. (Obviously, the remainder of the essay will be focused on demonstrating how Odysseus' curiosity leads to his many hardships)

*Paragraph 2:*

- How is this character revealed at the beginning of the novel?
- Give two specific examples and include one direct quote that describes this character.
- How do these examples show what kind of character he or she is?

*Paragraph 3:*

- How does this character change throughout the course of this novel?
- Give two specific examples and include one direct quote which illustrates a change in the character (i.e. changes in their actions, attitudes, beliefs, or self-concept).
- Explain why this change is important to the character.

*Paragraph 4:*

- Describe the character near or at the end of the novel.
- Give two specific examples and include one direct quote which illustrates how or why they have changed.
- Do you think the change is for the better or for the worse?

*Paragraph 5:* Explain what you have learned through the experiences of this character and how you feel about what this character has been through.