

In most stories, then protagonists undergo a set of experiences that changes the way they look at themselves and the world around them. Therefore, examining how a protagonist changes is an effective way to begin literary analysis.

Using *The Bronze Bow*, write a well-organized and well-supported five-paragraph essay that demonstrates how the protagonist changes.

Directions: Use the space provided and the diagram on the last page to answer the questions in the boxes below. Use complete sentences and be sure to write neatly and legibly.

Protagonist

- Almost every book revolves around one or more **main characters**. The main character of a story is called the **protagonist**. The protagonist changes from the beginning of the story to the end.

Who is the protagonist of your novel? (if there is more than one protagonist, choose one!)

Characteristics and Traits

- A **characteristic** or **trait** is a feature that helps identify a character. In a story, the characteristics of the protagonist are what set him or her apart from the other characters in the story.
- Some characteristics are **external**, such as a character's physical appearance.
 - o External traits can be anything from a character's height and hair color to abilities and skills.
 - o Some external traits are more important than others! Choose one that is important to the story!

What is one important **external** trait of the protagonist?

Why is this trait important?

Write down a sentence or passage from the novel where this trait is described:

Characteristics and Traits

- Some characteristics are **internal**, such as a character's personality.
 - Internal traits are a character's emotions, beliefs, attitudes, or fears; internal traits are what make a character's personality unique.
 - Some internal traits are more important than others! Choose one that is important to the story!

What is one important **internal** trait of the protagonist?

Why is this trait important?

Write down a sentence or passage from the novel where this trait is described:

Goal

- In most stories, the protagonist has a **goal** - something he or she wants or wants to accomplish.
 - A character can have more than one goal, and a character's goals can change throughout the story.
 - Most protagonists have one main goal.
 - A goal isn't necessarily something external or physical!

What is the protagonist's goal?

Why is this goal important to the character?

What is stopping the protagonist from reaching this goal?

Conflict

- Most protagonists have a **main conflict**: an enemy, obstacle, or problem that he or she has to overcome. Many stories have more than one conflict.
 - o The main conflict of the story is usually what stops the main character from reaching his or her goal.
 - o Just like the goal, the main conflict isn't necessarily something external or physical!

What is the main conflict of the novel?

How does this conflict stop the protagonist from reaching his or her goal?

Resolution

- In most stories, the protagonist's conflicts and experiences cause him or her to change or to learn a valuable lesson. The part of the story where the protagonist learns this lesson or realizes that he or she has changed is called the **resolution**.
 - o The resolution is the final outcome of the story.
 - o It's where all of the loose ends are tied up!

Describe how the protagonist changes from the beginning of the story to the end:

Did the protagonist learn any important lessons? If so, what?

Did you like the resolution of this story? Why or why not?

Mood

- The **mood** of a story is the feelings or emotions created in the reader. An author creates the mood through his or her descriptions, word choice, and writing style.
 - o The mood is how *you* feel when *you* are reading the book - not how the characters feel!
 - o Moods can range from horror and sadness to amazement and humor.
 - o The mood of a story can change from moment to moment or scene to scene, but most stories have an overall or general mood.

Describe the mood of the story:

How does the author create this mood?

Write down a sentence or passage from the novel that helps create this mood:

Theme

- The **theme** of a story is a broad statement about life or human nature. The theme is *not* what happens in the story (that's the plot!) -the theme is *why it matters*.
 - o Ask yourself what the author's point is -why did he or she write this story?
 - o Consider what the protagonist learns in the story- often, that's a clue as to a story's theme!
 - o A story can have more than one theme, but most stories have one **main theme**.

What do you think is the main theme of this novel?

Why do you think this is the main theme?

Write down a passage from the novel that relates to or suggests this theme:

Protagonist in the Beginning

Protagonist in the Middle

Protagonist at the End

Trait #1 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #1 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #1 _____,

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #2 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #2 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #2 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #3 _____,

Evidence:
pg.#

Trait #3 _____

Evidence:
pg.#

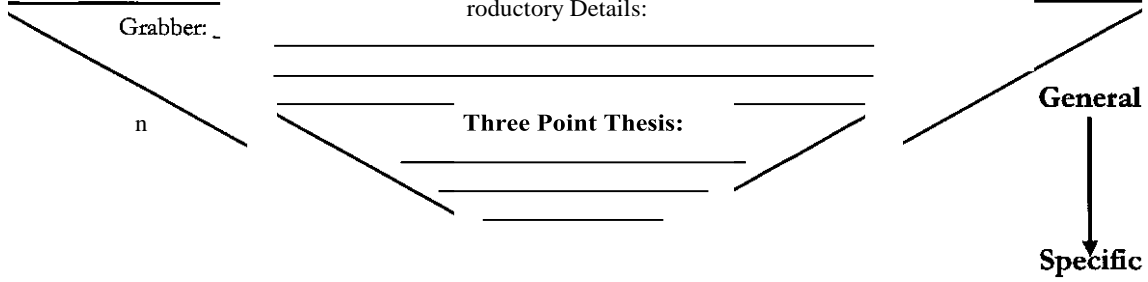
Trait #3 _____

Evidence:
pg.#



Expository Essay - Graphic Organizer

8th Grade English



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- **Main Idea (thesis point #1):** _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'A': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'B': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'C': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - Summary/Transition Sentence _____
-

- **Main Idea (thesis point #2):** _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'A': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'B': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - o Supporting Idea 'C': _____
 - Detail/Example _____
 - Summary/Transition Sentence _____
-

- **Main Idea (thesis point #3):** _____
- Supporting Idea 'A' _____
 - Detail/Example _____
- Supporting idea 'B' _____
 - Detail/Example _____
- Supporting Idea 'C' _____
 - Detail/Example _____
- Summary/Transition Sentence _____

