

Character Analysis Assignment Sheet

To analyze something is to study it carefully. For this assignment you will study the personality and behavior of one character from the novel Shane. It is recommended that you chose a major character: Shane, Joe, Marian, or Bob... Next think of three traits that describe this character. Be prepared to support each personality trait you have selected through the use of quotations (a quotation is *any* sentence from the novel that you use in your paper— it does not have to have quotes around it in the book) and examples.

When quoting the novel, you must include a page number. Example:

"I think that was the happiest summer of my life" (Schaefer 51).

Assignment Guidelines:

- This essay must be a five paragraph essay. Remember to include an introduction with a strong thesis, three detail paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- Each paragraph should be a *minimum* of four to six sentences. You are encouraged to write more.
- For each detail paragraph, include a minimum of one quote and one example that supports your point. Be sure explain (or give context to) your quotations, as needed.
- Because this is a type of literary analysis, no first person is allowed (unless it occurs in a quote from the novel). You should also avoid phrases like "This essay will show..." Do not refer to yourself or to your own essay when writing this paper.
- Rough drafts will be written in the composition books: use cursive, skip lines, write on the front sides of the page only.
- **Rough draft due date:** Wednesday, September 21st
- Final drafts may be either typed or handwritten. Handwritten drafts should be on loose leaf paper, front sides of the page only, skip lines. Typed drafts should be in Times New Roman, font size 12, one inch margins, double spaced.
- Include a heading on your paper and give the assignment a unique name (do not title it Character Analysis Essay).
- Do not skip extra lines between paragraphs. Instead indent each time you begin a new paragraph.
- **Final draft due date:** Friday, September 30th

For this essay, you will be graded on the "Six Traits of Good Writing." Consider these areas as you edit your rough drafts:

- Conventions: spelling, mechanics, punctuation, capitalization, etc...
- Ideas/Content: use of details, creativity, did you stay on topic
- Voice: personality evident in the writing, appropriate tone
- Sentence fluency: complete sentences, no run-ons or fragments
- Organization: do you follow your thesis, five paragraph essay structure
- Word choice: descriptive, interesting vocabulary; avoid generic words