Name



Checklist for Revising a Literary Essay About a Character

Read the questions in the first column of the checklist. In the second column, make notes about your essay.

Questions for Revision	Notes About My Literary Essay
Does my essay begin with an introduction that identifies the story, author, and character and attracts the reader? If not, how can I strengthen my introduction?	
In the introduction, does my essay present a thesis about a character? If not, what thesis can I develop from the points I have made?	
Do the specific details I provide about the character actually support my thesis? If not, what details can I add and what details should I delete? Do I need to return to the story and to my notes and select different details?	
Does my essay describe the character clearly, vividly, in showing language? If not, what do I need to add or change?	
Have I cited the page numbers of quotations, paraphrases, and significant events from the story?	
Does my essay follow the pattern of organization I chose? If not, how can I reorganize my draft?	

Name



Checklist for Revising a Literary Essay About a Character

Read the questions in the first column of the checklist. In the second column, make notes about your essay.

Questions for Revision	Notes About My Literary Essay
Does my essay have unity: Does it stick to its topic without digressions? Can unity be found in individual paragraphs as well as in the essay as a whole? If not, what should I delete?	
Does my essay have coherence: Does it flow smoothly and are the connections between ideas clear? If not, what specific passages in the essay lack coherence, and how can I clarify what they say?	
Can I add transitions to enhance coherence? If so, where? What specific words or phrases would be appropriate?	
Does my essay end with a concluding paragraph that sums up my ideas? If not, what do I need to add to the end of the essay?	
Have I maintained a consistent, appropriate tone and voice for this essay? If not, where do the tone or voice seem inappropriate? What word changes can I make in those passages to alter the tone and voice?	
Is the style of my essay suited for an audience that appreciates literature? If not, what changes in wording can I make, such as replacing vague words with specific ones or replacing colloquial phrases with more formal ones?	

Name



Checklist for Revising a Literary Essay About a Character

Read the questions in the first column of the checklist. In the second column, make notes about your essay.

Questions for Revision	Notes About My Literary Essay
Have I fulfilled my purpose of deepening the reader's understanding, and my own understanding, of a literary character? If not, what ideas can I add to the essay?	
Finally, does my essay make the character sound interesting? Would it make readers want to read the short story? If not, how can I express the effect the character had on me so that my interest is passed along to the reader?	