

LC Essay Sentence Outline - Body Paragraph #1

What is your character like at the beginning of the story?

Example for Scrooge from *A Christmas Carol*:

- II. In the beginning of the story, Scrooge is a mean-spirited man who lacks compassion.**
 - A. He doesn't believe in Christmas.**
 - 1. He refuses to spend the holiday with his nephew.**
 - 2. He says "Bah humbug" to Christmas**
 - 3. He thinks "every idiot who goes about with 'Merry Christmas' on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart" (10).**
 - B. In addition, Scrooge doesn't treat his clerk well.**
 - 1. He doesn't pay him enough money**
 - 2. Scrooge won't let Bob Cratchit heat his office.**

3. He also expects Cratchit to work on Christmas Day.

a. Scrooge finally relents and lets Bob have Christmas off.

b. But he has to come in even earlier the next day.

C. Scrooge also refuses to help the poor and needy.

1. He thinks the poor should go to prisons and workhouses.

2. Or they should “die and decrease the surplus population” (13).

Example for Maijue from “An Unforgettable Journey”:

- II. When the story starts, Maijue is a young girl who is often insecure and frightened.**
 - A. In fact, when she left home, Maijue was only three years old; consequently, her memories of the journey are a bit hazy.**
 - B. She talks about walking over the rugged mountains, always fearful of being found by the Communists and seeing children drugged with opium to keep them quiet.**
 - C. In addition, she recalls a time when she was too scared to cross over a trail of ants and had to call her father over to carry her.**
 - D. One time, Maijue recalls, as they were traveling by boat over a swiftly moving river, she screamed out in terror, “We’re going to fall out!”(273)**
 - a. Fortunately, she didn’t fall out.**
 - b. Maijue and her family were able to find shelter in Thailand in a bus station that had been turned into a refugee camp.**

