

MS Literary Prompt: Human Engineering in "Flowers for Algernon"

In the short story "Flowers for Algernon," Charlie is the subject of an experiment in human engineering that radically changes his life. As the story progresses, the readers learn of great joys as well as great heartaches that Charlie experiences as a result of this experiment.

In a well-reasoned essay, analyze the impact of Charlie's experience with human engineering. Overall, do you think the experiment was positive or negative for Charlie? Why or why not? Be sure to support your interpretation with specific details from the text.

As you write, remember your essay will be scored based on how well you:

- develop a multi-paragraph response to the assigned topic that clearly communicates your thesis to the audience
- support your thesis with meaningful examples and references from the text, carefully citing any direct quotes
- organize your essay in a clear and logical manner, including an introduction, body, and conclusion
- use well-structured sentences and language that are appropriate for your audience.

MS Narrative Prompt: "Feeling Proud"

From time to time we do things that make us proud of ourselves. Sometimes we are the only ones who even know what we have done, but we recognize that performing a good deed is often its own reward.

Write a narrative about something you did that made you feel proud. Describe what happened and explain why you felt a sense of pride.

As you write, remember your story will be scored based on how well you:

- develop a multi-paragraph response to the assigned topic that clearly communicates the purpose of your story to the audience.
- describe the characters, setting, and conflict using meaningful sensory descriptions and details that enable the reader to visualize the experiences in your narrative.
- organize your story in a clear and logical manner, including a beginning, middle and end.
- use well-structured sentences and language that are appropriate for your audience.
- edit your work to conform to the conventions of standard American English.