

Character Perspective Paragraphs (Tough Boris Assignment) **Student Discussion Task:**

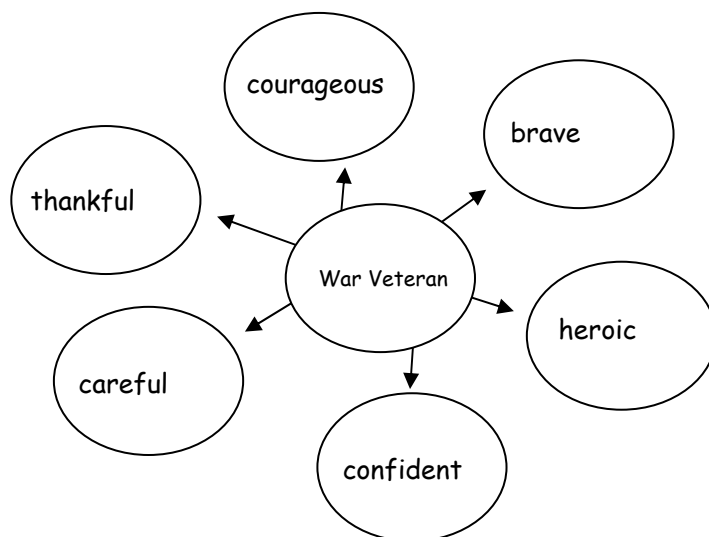
Here you will find three students' adjective brainstorms and the character paragraphs each created as a result. Before you go through the same process and create your own character paragraphs, talk about the following for each of the three pieces of writing:

- Each writer used all or most of the words from their clusters in their final paragraphs. **How did each writer choose to use the words in a way that was different from the other two writers? What's one unique word choice technique each writer used?**
- **Word choice** is more than using powerful adjectives. It is also using strong verbs and precise nouns. It can also be taking risks with words and trying out figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification) techniques. **Besides using thoughtful adjectives, what other word choice techniques did these three writers use well?**
- These writers were also working on voice. **Voice** is 1) conveying passion about the topic of the writing, 2) using words and phrases so the writing sounds conversational, 3) making extra efforts to help the reader understand the writing and the topic more easily, and 4) conveying tone and mood through words. **Where do you see evidence of these voice elements in each of the three pieces of writing?**

The War Veteran Amanda P., eleventh grade writer



I can picture my grandpa sprinting through the battlefield with bullets hot on his tail. He is heroic. As a friend lies with legs



separated from his aching body, Grandpa snatches him up and carries him to safety. He is confident. As he bolts to a new position, his fears of being shot are swept away. He is careful. The mines scattered around will blow with only a whisper of wind. He is brave. Knowing the gruesome things that could bestow upon him, he still continues to serve. He is courageous. No matter what scenario is present, he will never leave a man behind. Sitting with me on the couch, Grandpa is thankful.

For all the times bullets skimmed past his head, whining in his ears, Grandpa is thankful for the life he still has.

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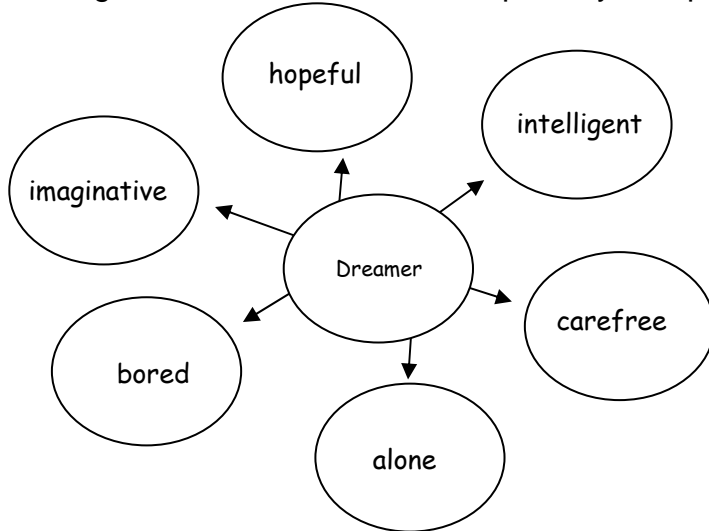
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WritingFix thanks both Amandas and Erica for allowing us to share their excellent writing samples for this on-line writing assignment.

The Dreamer
by Erica G., eleventh grade writer



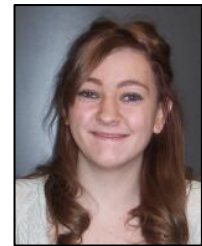
I am the grass on which a dreamer dreams. With sleepy eyes and a clear conscience, a dreamer is imaginative and carefree, watching white marshmallow clouds pass by with peaceful eyes and



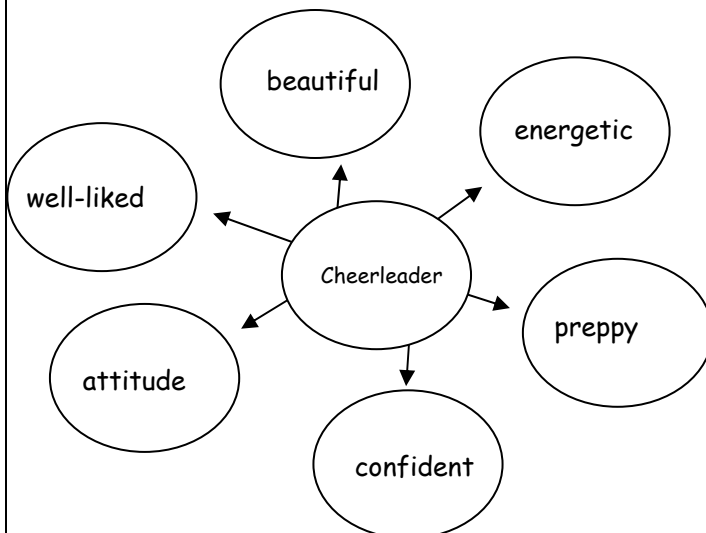
breaths that become deeper and more rhythmic the more time that passes by. Only a dreamer himself would know he wasn't sleeping. Dreamers, being imaginative and creative, have minds that can travel light years away and thousands of miles into the deep blue sea. Dreamers are never bored, but dreamers always dream alone. The reason people envy dreamers is because they are hopeful; anything is possible in

a dreamer's mind.

The Cheerleader
by Amanda L., eleventh grade writer



As she strutted out to the floor, she showed attitude and intimidation toward her competitors. She was confident, and knew what she was doing. As



she stood in front of the crowd, she did not look scared or nervous. She was the one girl I became to hate. She was beautiful, preppy, intelligent, and well-liked. Then there was me--the girl in the crowd, the nobody--but her, she was and had everything: a car, a boyfriend, good grades, great friends. She knew what she wanted on that floor and it was to win. As she performed her routine everything was perfect. She hit her motions hard. Every move she made was on the right count and flowed well. As

the music stopped, the crowd roared. She was perfect. Although I had learned to hate her at that moment, I realized how she was everything I wanted to be. Perfect to everyone around her, she would be everything I wasn't.