

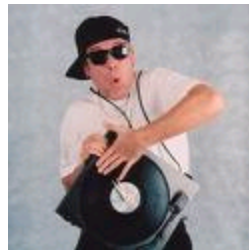
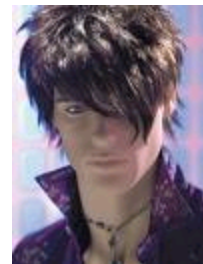
Three Things Uniquely Me

Paragraph Assignment

DIRECTIONS: Think of all the different likes, dislikes, hobbies, activities, clothes, attitudes, goals, dreams, appearances, etc. that make you who you are as a person. What kinds of things make you different or unique from everyone else? What is it that truly makes you who you are?

Now write a paragraph that thoroughly explains three unique characteristics that make you different from everyone else.

Remember to follow the paragraph format, using identifiers and transitions, use the “Writing Packet’s” appropriate pages (5-6, 54-56, 58, 61-62, 66), and use the back side to begin your pre-writing by listing those characteristics that are uniquely you.



UNIQUELY ME FILL-IN-THE-BLANK GUIDE

Example (TS) sentences (you need your topic, a statement/opinion about the topic, and number of reasons):

(TS) After thinking about what makes my personality unique, I realize that there are three main, special qualities that form who I am

(TS) Although everyone claims to be different, I know I am a rather unique individual because of several key characteristics.

(TS) It is impossible to say that there is no one in the world like me, but I know there are three quality factors that make me extremely unique.

(TS) There are three specific traits I exhibit on a daily basis that prove I am an exceptionally unique person.

Example (PT) sentences: (begin with a transition, a point/reason why _____ makes you different from everyone else, and the topic in new words)—make sure you vary the order!

(1st pt.) One, I am incredibly distinct from anyone else because _____.

(2nd pt.) Two, since I _____, I am an exceedingly rare person.

(3rd pt.) Three, I am unmatched by others because I _____.

Fill in the blanks with a reason you are different from everyone else!

Example sentences: remember that the first sentence explains what you just said in your point sentence and the second sentence then shows a specific incident that shows/proves what you mean. See the two examples paragraphs in this packet for guides on what yours should look like.

Example (CS) sentence: (you need a transition, your 3 pts. in new words, and the topic)—remember the 3 parts but after the transition, the order can shift.

(CS) In short, the world is made up of people from all walks of life, but what makes me an exclusive human being is _____, _____, and _____.

Try to use either compound or complex sentences in your examples.

Compound Sentence Rule: (coordinating conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)

I like to eat most vegetables, but I don't like squash. We couldn't find an open store, so we went home. The crowd cheered wildly for their team, and they went home happy with a victory.

Practice: (punctuate the following sentences correctly)

I really enjoy hanging out with my friends but I don't like it if we fight.

I thoroughly admire someone who knows what they are talking about and I always try to learn something from them.

Complex Sentence Rule: (subordinating conjunctions: after, since, if, when, while, wherever, though, whenever, even though, although, unless, until, as soon as, as)

I enjoy teamwork because I get to work with a group of people and together we achieve a goal. As soon as a play in football begins, each team member has a role and a job to do. If we all do our jobs well on an offensive play, we get either a first down or a touchdown.

Practice: (punctuate the following sentences correctly)

After I get home from school I always do my homework.

I always do my homework after I get home from school.

Personality Is Like an Extraordinary Novelty Toy

(TS) After thinking about what makes my personality unique, I realize that there are three main, special qualities that form who I am. (1st Pt.) First, my name is one decoration that makes me feel “out of the ordinary.” (Ex.) My name is not the most common name. I have never heard of anyone with the same name as me. One day a couple years ago, my friends and I were having a conversation about our names. All of my buddies said that they knew someone that shared the same name as them. I, however, did not. Although have I felt left out of the common name circle, I still felt a surge of pride that comes with my name, even today. (2nd Pt.) Second, I have a black belt in karate, which also fills me with a sense of uniqueness and rarity. (Ex.) Having a black belt is a quality that very few people possess because it takes such a long time to obtain. I began the art of Tae Kwon Do exactly five years ago. In 2006, four years after I started karate, I earned the opportunity to test for my black belt. Filled with determination and excitement, I worked my way through six months of hard boot camp, or training. During this time, I had to practice many forms, kickboxing sequences, getting physically ready, but mostly getting mentally strong. After many months of tears and sweat, I was ready. I traveled to Santa Clara, completed a two-day test, and achieved the object that most people only dream of- a Black Belt. (3rd Pt.) Third, I set very high goals for myself, which makes my exclusiveness stand out even further. (Ex.) Every year, I set my sights on straight A's. I enjoy the feeling of pride and accomplishment that come along with good grades. I soon become greedy for good grades and do all I can to reach them. I remember a year when I did not get the grade that I had originally wanted. I immediately did all that I could to increase my grade. With hard work and perseverance, I obtained the grade that I craved and dreamed about, finally achieving an “A.” (CS) Therefore, I realize that the three qualities that help make me who I am are my unusual name, the fact that I own a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do, and that I work hard to achieve the high goals that I set for myself.

Not Just a Face in the Sea

(TS) After closely examining my goals, hobbies, and aspirations, I realize there are three main components in particular that make me unique. (Pt.1) To begin with, something that makes me distinct from other people is that my main goal in life is to excel in school and be able to go to college; however, unlike most people with the same goals, I will do most anything to accomplish it. (Ex.) For example, I would choose to stay home and study or do homework as to go to a school football game because I know that not only is it the responsible choice, but also one that will help me in the future. This recently happened a couple days ago when I had the same choice. I decided to stay home and finish my homework and study for a test the next day instead of go to the football game. Although I missed a good game, I was able to finish all my homework and get an A on my test. Since I am faced with this decision often and always choose to do my homework, I realize that this makes me different from other students my age who would rather watch a football game. (Pt.2) In addition, my interest in technology makes me completely unlike others because this subject bores most people. (Ex.) I enjoy working with modern technology such as cell phones and computers and could spend hours exploring their features and abilities. These kinds of things interest me because I love investigating the mechanisms of the devices. On the other hand, my friends do not share these same interests and find it extremely boring to even look at a computer or cell phone for more than an hour unless they are instant messaging or texting. For example, when I first got my cell phone, I invited my friend over to help me explore its features. At first we were able to share equal interest in the phone, trying to get it to do as we wanted. After about a half hour, my friend started complaining about how bored she was and eventually lost all interest in what I was doing. This interest of mine makes me different because many kids my age share the same opinion as my friend and find technology boring. In contrast, I enjoy this subject very much and plan to soon pursue a career in it. (Pt.3) Lastly, a component of my uniqueness comes from my requirements for my outfits. (Ex.) I always have to be coordinating my clothing garments with my shoes or accessories. Whether it be in sports, school, or simply just going to bed, I must be matching from top to bottom. This makes me diverse because most people do not care if what they are wearing matches or is even clean. Since this is a pet peeve of mine, I make sure everything I am wearing matches and is straight out of the dryer. For example, every night I spend at least 10-15 minutes picking out an outfit for the next day and inspect it thoroughly to make sure it is clean and does not have any stains on it. Not only does this make me easily distinguishable in a crowd of seventh graders, but it also helps my appearance look publicly satisfactory. (CS) All in all, I am a unique individual because of my striving attitude for a good education, my interest in modern technology, and my coordinative necessities for each outfit I wear.

Just Be, Everyone Else Is Taken

(TS) After thinking what makes my personality unique, I discovered three main, special qualities that form who I am. (1st Pt) To begin with, I am incredibly distinct from almost everybody because of the diverse sports I pursue. (Ex) The type of game I enjoy most is not one of the common ones such as baseball, football, basketball etc. I engage in water polo. At the beginning of the school year when we were getting to know each other, my new friends were asking everyone what sports they play. When it was my turn to tell them what I play, I told them I participate in water polo and they all asked, “How do you play that?” Then I told them how it is like a combination of soccer and football, played in the water! I always find people’s reactions as rather amusing when I outline the details of this unusual sport I invest in my spare time. (2nd Pt) In addition, since I have a passionate desire for the musical arts, I am an exceedingly rare individual. (Ex) A few years ago I took interest in the bass clarinet, a huge woodwind instrument. Because of my dedication to this new instrument and others, I was invited to join 8th grade honor band. I took into deep consideration that I would have to wake up one hour early each morning, but since my love for music is greater than my love for sleep, I joined the band. Not many people are in honor band because of the huge time commitment. I plan on continuing music for the rest of my life because it is a characteristic that allows me to stand out from the crowd. (3rd Pt) Finally, I am unmatched by many others because of my rich personal history. (Ex) Shortly after I turned two years old, my family moved over seas to live in England because of my dad’s job. Although I don’t remember some of the details of my life/adventure in England, it was definitely a great experience that I love to tell stories about to my friends. My favorite tale is about getting to play hide-and-seek inside of a castle instead of a house. So, although many people have vacationed in England, not many can say they lived there for nearly two years or got to play around in a castle. (CS) Therefore, the world is made up of people from all walks of life, but what makes me an exclusive human being is my involvement in different athletics, my devotion to music, and my interesting past.

7th Grade Paragraph Rubric

Content & Organization	4	3	2	1	0
Is the title interesting/clever/unique, connected to the topic, spaced and capitalized correctly, in correct person? Is the heading correctly placed, spaced, and typed? Is the title a label? Is the title missing?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Does the topic sentence clearly identify the topic, make a clear and creative statement about that topic, and have all parts? Is it one sentence? Is it indented?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Are the point sentences clear and connected to the topic? Do they include all parts? Do they begin with an appropriate transition? Are they a single sentence? Do they vary the order of the point and topic?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Are the supporting sentences relevant, logically connected to each other, and on topic? Do the ideas flow smoothly? Do they include all the example parts? Are they two or more sentences?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Are the examples/details clear, concise, concrete, thorough, and focused on the topic? Do they show and not tell/explain/prove? Is there enough support? Do they tie back?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Does the paragraph end in an appropriate concluding sentence that has a transition, the main topic, and summarizes the main three points in the same order and new words? Is it only one sentence?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Grammar & Mechanics	4	3	2	1	0
Is the word choice varied, clear, concise, and effective? Are the words used and spelled correctly? Are there no contractions? Is the vocabulary advanced, average, or basic.	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Are the verbs written in the correct tense with proper agreement? Does the paragraph use the correct person throughout? Are pronouns used correctly in the paragraph?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Is the punctuation, capitalization, font size, margins, and spacing correct and appropriate? <u>Are there fragments, comma splices, and/or run-ons?</u> Are all identifiers included and used correctly?	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
Does the paragraph have a variety of sentence structures (compound, complex) and use them correctly? <u>Are there short, choppy sentences?</u>	5pts	4pts	3pts	2pts	1pt
TOTAL 50 POINTS _____/50					

Explain at least three areas in need of improvement:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)