

# Point Proof Purpose

An effective paragraph writing strategy for TDA questions. This three-part strategy includes making a statement to answer the question, proving the answer with evidence from the text, and explaining the connections.

Q:

Analyze the personality of the character Kino from *The Pearl*. Explain how his personality changes in the story. Give details from the story to support your response.

A:

**Kino, the main character in *The Pearl*, exhibits many personality traits. Early in the story, he is portrayed as quiet and calm, but when provoked, his temper flares.**

**Kino, the main character in the *The Pearl*, exhibits many personality traits. Early in the story, he is portrayed as quiet and calm, but when provoked, his temper flares.** Kino, his wife Juana, and their infant son Coyotito live in very humble surroundings. As the man of the house, Kino is focused, and he goes about his work with a calm demeanor. His personality changes from one of calmness to one of intense anger when the life of his son is threatened after suffering a scorpion sting. In need of medical care, Kino and Juana take the baby to the residence of the town's doctor. When the doctor's servant tells the family that the doctor will not see the baby, Kino's anger flares: "Then, without warning, he struck the gate a crushing blow with his fist" (Steinbeck 522). Furious at the doctor's refusal to care for the baby, Kino punches the gate. Kino is frustrated and hates that the doctor treats him like less than an animal. Clearly this anger is justified in this instance, and it resurfaces through the story at times of self defense.

Q:

Moon is the main character in the selection; Ashraf is an important supporting character. Analyze Moon's personality in the story. How would you describe Moon's opinion of Ashraf initially? How does his opinion of Ashraf change, and what event in the story influences the change? Use evidence from the selection to support your response.

A:

**Moon's opinion of Ashraf changes from one of apprehension to one of acceptance and even admiration.**

**Moon's opinion of Ashraf changes from one of apprehension to one of acceptance and even admiration.** Up to this point, Moon seems to be a very self-centered teenager. His priority is his band, and his most prized possession seems to be his drums. Ashraf and his interpreter startle Moon when they wonder into the attic room where Moon was playing the drums and listening to music. After some conversation, Ashraf asks if he could play the drums: "Moon handed him his sticks and slid off the chair. Ashraf took the sticks, sat in Moon's chair, and tapped on Moon's drums" (Potok 23). By allowing Ashraf to play his drums, Moon shows some trust in the stranger. He is surprised to find that Ashraf is actually very talented, and he realizes that they have something in common. Moon not only allows Ashraf to continue playing, but he makes a recording of him playing which is evidence of his admiration for his talent.

## *A Long Walk to Water*

Q: Salva belonged to the Dinka tribe. Why was this connection to a tribe significant for Salva? Use details from the story to support your response.

Q: Salva faced many difficult circumstances. What important role did Salva's uncle play in inspiring Salva in the story? Use details from the story to support your response.