

Essay Prompt

Compare and contrast Phineas's behavior and brain to those of an adolescent.

In your own words, answer the first part of the prompt: Do you think Phineas's behavior (after his accident) is similar or different from that of an adolescent? Why? *Put an "x" next to your answer and respond below.*

☐ Similar

☐ Different

In your own words, answer the second part of the prompt: Do you think Phineas's brain (after his accident) is similar or different to that of an adolescent? Why? *Put an "x" next to your answer and respond below.*

☐ Similar

☐ Different

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In your own words, answer the second part of the prompt: Do you think Phineas's brain (after his accident) is similar or different to that of an adolescent? Why? *Put an "x" next to your answer and respond below.*

☐ Similar

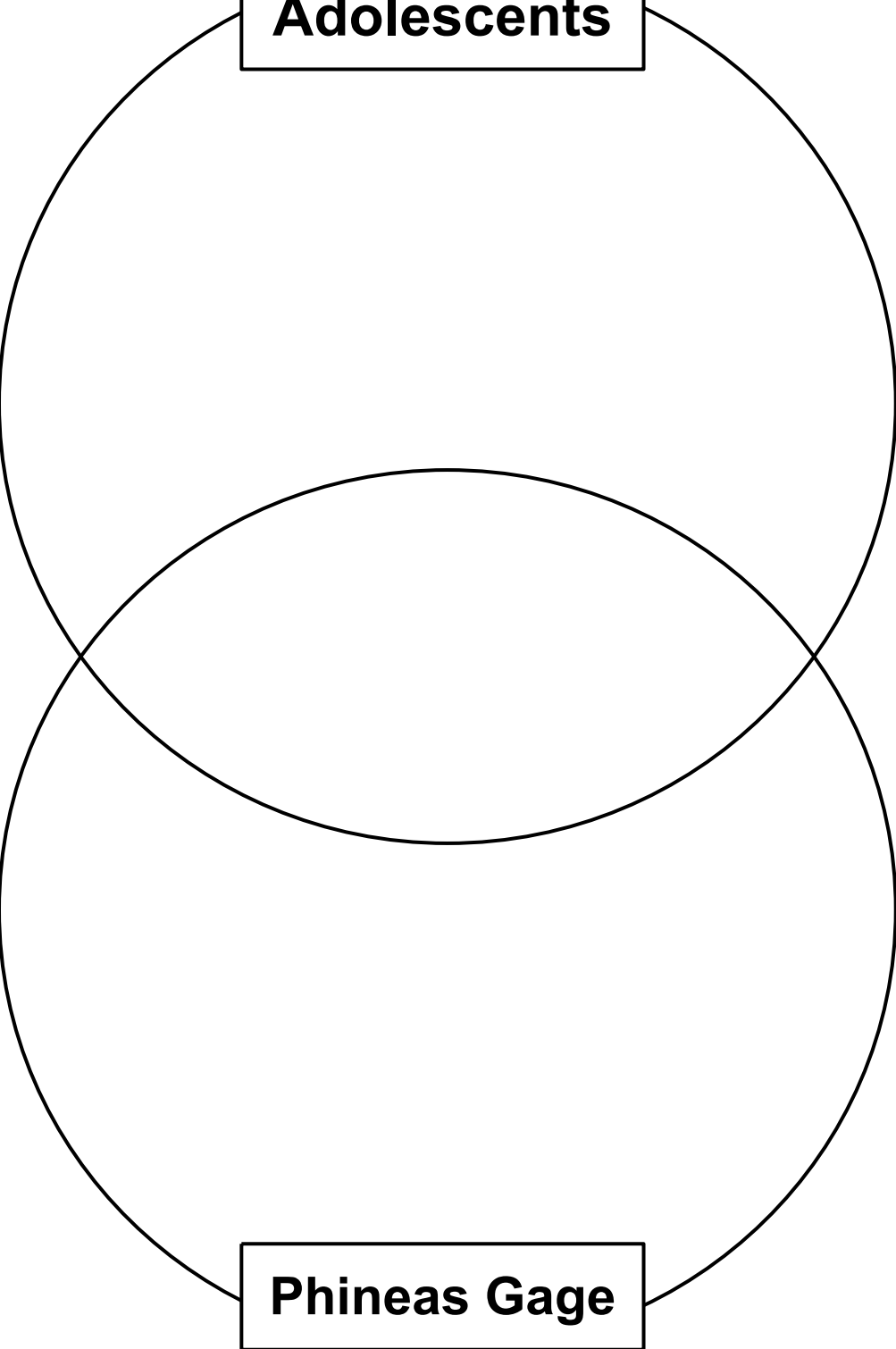
☐ Different

Essay Thoughts

Reflection

Your Name

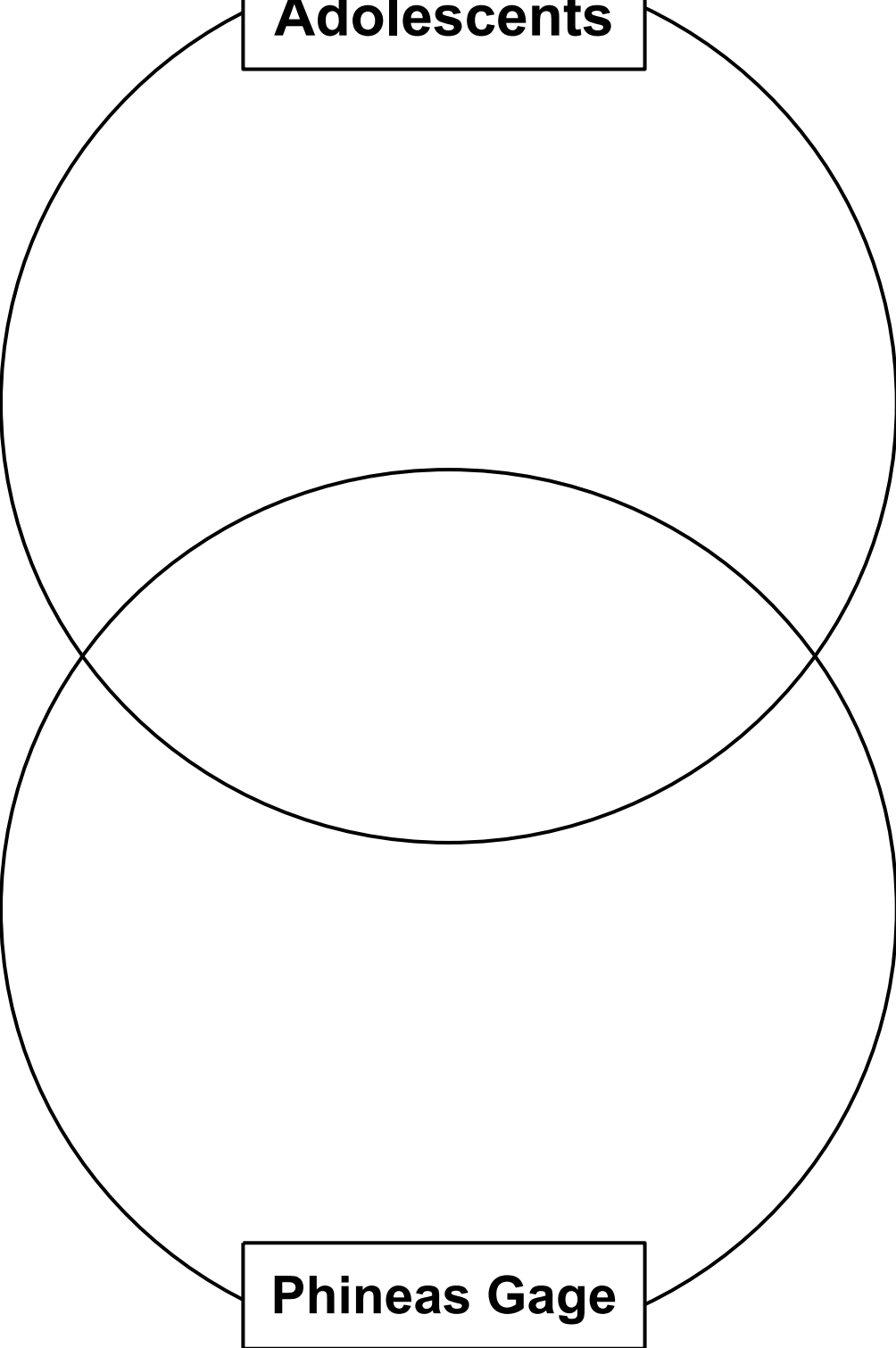
Adolescents



Phineas Gage

Your Name

Adolescents



Phineas Gage

Station 1

Describing what different parts of the brain do

Part of the cerebral cortex	What does the part do?



Station 2

Adolescent Behavior

Chapter Title	
Author of the text	
Genre of the text	Fiction or Nonfiction <i>circle one</i>

First, you can see behaviors that we typically associate with adolescence, such as

_____,'

_____, and

_____, in many different

human cultures, not just those in the West.

Adolescent Behavior

Sensation-seeking	Self-regulation
Definition (in the text)	Definition (in the text)
Increased between age _____ and the late teens (peaking at age _____), and then fell again during the _____.	Increased steadily between _____ and the _____, after which it _____ out.
Aristotle	Socrates
<div>- Love</div> <div>_____</div> <div>_____</div> <div>- Have</div> <div>_____</div> <div>_____</div> <div>- Show disrespect for</div> <div>_____</div>	<div>- Lack</div> <div>_____</div> <div>- Fickle in their</div> <div>_____</div> <div>- _____</div> <div>- _____</div>

Station 3

Phineas's Behavior

Chapter Title	
Author of the text	
Genre of the text	Fiction or Nonfiction <i>circle one</i>

Follow the directions on the opposite side. Then, complete the table below.

External Changes

How did he change physically?

Internal Changes

How did he change mentally/emotionally?

“Horrible Accident” in Vermont by John Fleischman

Read about Phineas’s behavior after his accident. Highlight changes which occurred in Phineas (physically and mentally/emotionally).

1x Ten weeks after the accident, Dr. Harlow declares Phineas fully recovered from his wounds. He puts Phineas in a closed carriage and sends him home to his mother in New Hampshire. Phineas is very weak, but he can walk short distances. He can count, feed and dress himself, and sing. He can speak clearly and make sense of what he hears. Yet there is something odd about the “recovered” Phineas. Just before he leaves Cavendish, Dr. Harlow gives Phineas a little test. The doctor offers Phineas \$1,000 for the pocketful of pebbles that Phineas has collected walking along the Black River near town. Dr. Harlow knows that Phineas can add and subtract, yet Phineas angrily refuses the deal. Dr. Harlow tells himself that a man who was so badly hurt is going to need time to regain his full powers

2x As soon as Phineas leaves for home, Dr. Harlow writes a short report for the Boston Medical & Surgical Journal. Most doctors ignore Dr. Harlow’s article. The few who read it don’t believe it. How could a man survive such an injury, let alone make a “complete recovery”? But one Boston doctor is intrigued. He writes to Harlow for information and urges the Vermont doctor to back up his case by collecting formal statements from eyewitnesses in Cavendish. The letter is from Henry J. Bigelow, professor of surgery at the Harvard Medical College.

3x In the spring, Phineas is back in Cavendish, carrying his tamping iron. He never goes anywhere without it these days. Phineas has come for a final examination by Dr. Harlow and to reclaim his old job on the railroad. His left eye looks intact, but the vision has gradually faded away. Phineas has a huge scar on his forehead and a small scar under his cheekbone, but otherwise he is physically healed. Yet Dr. Harlow has private doubts about Phineas’s mental state. Phineas is just not his old self.

4x His old employers on the railroad quickly come to the same conclusion. The new Phineas is unreliable and, at times, downright nasty. He insults old workmates and friends. He spouts vulgar language in the presence of women. He changes his mind and his orders from minute to minute. The railroad contractors let him go. Dr. Harlow, who is keeping confidential notes on Phineas, sadly writes, “His contractors, who regarded him as the most efficient and capable foreman in their employ previous to his injury, considered the change in his mind so marked that they could not give him his place again.”

5x Phineas’s old friends also wash their hands of him. Dr. Harlow writes: “He is fitful, irreverent, indulging at times in the grossest profanity (which was not previously his custom), manifesting but little deference for his fellows, impatient of restraint or advice when it conflicts with his desires.” Phineas comes up with all sorts of new plans, the doctor writes, but they are no sooner announced than he drops them. Phineas is like a small child who says he is running away from home after lunch and then comes up with a new idea over his sandwich. Dr. Harlow writes, “A child in his intellectual capacities and manifestations, he has the animal passions of a strong man.” A doctor is bound by his oath not to reveal the details of a patient’s condition without permission, so Dr. Harlow will keep his observations to himself for twenty years.

6x Meantime, Dr. Harlow has another letter from Dr. Bigelow at Harvard, who thanks him for collecting the eyewitness statements about the accident. Would Mr. Gage consider coming to Boston at Dr. Bigelow’s expense so his case could be presented at the medical school and before the Boston Society of Medical Improvement? Dr. Harlow and Dr. Bigelow make arrangements

Station 4

Phineas's Injury

Chapter Title	
Author of the text	
Genre of the text	Fiction or Nonfiction <i>circle one</i>

Explain which area of Phineas’s brain was injured and support your claim with the best piece of evidence from the text.

Answer	Evidence	Explanation