

## Content Modifications

**Grade Level:** 8

**Subject:** English

**Topic:** Literary Paragraph Writing

### Learning Goal:

Students will write a paragraph that analyzes a character's development in a short story or novel, using evidence from the text.

### The Original Task (before modification)

*“Write a literary paragraph analyzing how the main character changes over the course of the story. Include a clear topic sentence, supporting evidence, analysis, and a concluding sentence.”*

### Challenge:

This is a high-level task that requires organizing thoughts, integrating quotations, and using formal language - all at once. This can overwhelm English learners or students who need support with academic writing.

### Modified Version (Same Learning Goal, Simplified Process)

**Task Title:** *How the Character Changes*

#### Step-by-Step Instructions

**Step 1:** Choose a story or character you know well:

- ☐ The Most Dangerous Game
- ☐ The Outsiders
- ☐ Other :

**Step 2:** Think about how the character changes over the course of the story.

Beginning of Story	What Happens?	End of Story
The character is...	Then...	At the end, they are...

*Provide sentence frames with the chart:*

- At the beginning, the character is \_\_\_\_\_.”
- “After \_\_\_\_\_ happens, they start to feel \_\_\_\_\_.”
- “By the end, the character has changed because \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Step 3:** Turn your chart into a short paragraph.

Use the sentence starters below to help:

- *Topic sentence:* “In the story, the main character changes in an important way.”
- *Details:* “At first, they are \_\_\_\_\_. But after \_\_\_\_\_, they begin to \_\_\_\_\_.”
- *Conclusion:* “This shows that \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Step 4 (Optional Extension):**

Add a quotation from the story that shows the character changing.

Example: “I don’t want to fight anymore.” (Chapter 5)

### **Supports Included**

- Sentence frames for each part of the paragraph
- Visual chart to organize thoughts before writing
- Option to dictate or record the paragraph orally
- Choice of story or character based on interest and familiarity
- Teacher conferencing or peer editing option

### **Why It Works**

This version breaks the writing task into clear, manageable parts without lowering the academic expectation. It builds confidence while still teaching how to support ideas with evidence and structure.