

Three Days to See

Responding to Text 6: Explain what Helen Keller's essay reveals about her attitude toward abilities and/or disabilities. Support with reference to the text.

Learning Outcome: 5.1.3 Use Language to Show Respect

Out of Range Score: 0	Below Level 1	At Level 2	3	4	Above Level 5
	<p>In Helen Keller's essay her attitude about abilities and/or disabilities is that she thinks a lot of people in the world take what they have for granted and they don't truly appreciate what they have until one day that ability that they once had isn't there anymore and they don't have the power to use one of their most used abilities like seeing or hearing. She believes that if we were all blind and deaf for a day that silence would teach us the joy of sound and darkness would teach us the joy of sight.</p>	<p>Helen Keller has a very positive attitude toward her abilities. She takes full advantage of what she is capable of achieving with her other senses. Even though she is blind, she remains very optimistic. She uses touch to feel peoples faces so she can identify who they are. She does not give up because she is blind and deaf. Keller just finds a different way of doing common tasks. "I know my many friends, not by sight, but only from the feel of their faces." Kellers attitude is also reflected when she explains what would happen if she was blessed with the gift of sight for three days. She talks about how she would take advantage of every minute of it, Keller would not take for granted this ability. She would study and observe everything she is incapable of such as beautiful forests and all the colors. Keller would take note of the appearance of all her friends faces as well. There is determination in her attitude.</p>	<p>Helen Keller's unfortunate circumstance of being deaf and blind has not hindered her growth as a human being. She does not see it as a setback but rather a different perspective. She is not angry at the world because if she was angry she would learn and never appreciate the gifts she does have. Being deaf and blind was just a challenge to her to rise above and do great things. Keller graduated from college, became an author lecturer and activist. Most people with hearing and sight will never become as educated and influential. Her thoughts on what she would do with three days of sight and hearing shows how fortunate everyone is to experience the world as they do. Keller would see the people, their faces and beyond the physical into emotions. She would see art and history and get a glimpse of the world as it was. And she would hear everything, from birds in the forest to laughter and singing in a play. Things that we take for granted everyday. Her thoughts on the world do not hold her back but push her forward to try and understand the things she can't experience. This caused her to be more educated, cultured, and aware of everything around her. Her ideas made her into one of the best incredibly influential people of her time, and now.</p>		

Rationale

<p>Score: 0</p>	<p>Score: 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response provides a superficial explanation of Keller's attitude toward abilities and/or disabilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "... she thinks a lot of people in the world take what they have for granted and they don't truly appreciate what they have until one day that ability that they once had isn't there anymore..." • Support for the explanation is generalized. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "She believes that if we were all blind and deaf for a day that silence would teach us the joy of sound and darkness would teach us the joy of sight." 	<p>Score: 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response provides a clear and developed explanation of Keller's attitude toward abilities and/or disabilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "Helen Keller has a very positive attitude toward her abilities. She takes full advantage of what she is capable of achieving with her other senses. Even though she is blind, she remains very optimistic." • Support for the explanation is relevant and specific. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "Keller just finds a different way of doing common tasks. I know my many friends, not by sight, but only from the feel of their faces." – "... she explains what would happen if she was blessed with the gift of sight... She would study and observe everything she is incapable of such as beautiful forests and all the colors." 	<p>Score: 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response provides a perceptive explanation of Keller's attitude toward abilities and disabilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "Helen Keller's unfortunate circumstance of being deaf and blind has not hindered her growth as a human being." • Support for the explanation is precise. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "Keller graduated from college, became an author, lecturer and activist. Most people with hearing and sight will never become as educated and influential." – "She would see art and history and get a glimpse of the world as it was." – "Her thoughts on the world do not hold her back but push her forward to try and understand the things she can't experience." • Response extends to a broader context. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – "Her thoughts on what she would do with three days of sight and hearing shows how fortunate everyone is to experience the world as they do."
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