

Lady Macbeth Meets Her Match?



*"I am woman, hear me roar."
-Helen Reddy*

Our encounter with Shakespeare's Macbeth introduced us to an influential character in Lady Macbeth. She got a rising and powerful man to seek more power, and it worked out... well... for a while. But let's not forget another influential character: Dolores Landingham, from the West Wing "Two Cathedrals" episode. She also convinced a powerful man to seek more power.

So.... Who had more influence?

Write a persuasive essay in which you answer this question. In addition to expressing your position and supporting it with textual evidence (including direct quotations), you must also fully explore the opposing point of view. So, your essay should take this form:

- Introductory Paragraph with catchy opening line & clear thesis at the end.
- One body paragraph exploring the opposing view to your thesis.
- One body paragraph putting forth your position in convincing fashion.
- Concluding paragraph restating your thesis & ending on a powerful note.

You will venture through the writing process to complete this work properly:

- Brainstorm (including notes for each character on front/back of page)
- Outline with clearly articulated thesis at top of page & order throughout
- Rough Draft (typed, double-spaced) to be shared with peer editor
- Peer Edit (provide your partner's rough draft with substantive feedback)



Persuasive Essay Evaluation

Ideas & Content (30 points)

Topic is narrow & manageable
Relevant, telling, quality details go beyond obvious
Reasonably accurate details
Writing from experience/ ideas fresh & original
Reader's questions are anticipated & answered
Demonstrates Insight

Organization: (30 points)

Powerful intro invites reader in
Powerful conclusion leaves reader pondering
Thoughtful/effective transitions
Logical & effective sequencing/arrangement
Pacing is well controlled/services effect
Flow is smooth & unnoticeable

Voice: (5 points)

Reader feels strong interaction with writer
Writer willingly takes risk
Tone & voice add appropriate flavor
Writing is honest, personal/reflects strong commitment

Word Choice: (15 points)

Words are specific & accurate
Words, phrases create pictures & linger in reader's mind
Natural language/Not overdone, over the top
Striking language catches reader's eye/ear
Lively verbs, precise nouns, vivid modifiers
Precision is obvious

Sentence Fluency: (10 points)

Sentences enhance the meaning
Sentences vary in length & structure
Purposeful & varied sentence starts
Creative & appropriate connectives
The writing has cadence, pace, flow

Conventions: (5 points)

Correct spelling
Correct punctuation
Correct grammar & usage
Sound & effective paragraphing
Conventions deftly manipulated for stylistic effect

Presentation: (5 points)

Typed appropriately (proper font, sizing, spacing)
Name/Date/Course/Teacher/Class period
Title

TOTAL:
