

## **An Example of the Assignment Completed by a Fellow Teacher With the Rubric I had made for it:**

1 N. Main St  
Hometown, MN 12345

February 28, 1961

Dear Ms. Smith,

My name is Emily and I am writing this letter because you have made a false assumption about my well-being and schooling. You think that I am doing poorly in school because I am not applying myself or “living up to my potential.” You also think that I have attitude and self-esteem issues; you think that I don’t find myself attractive. You may be right, but not for the reasons that you believe.

I was raised in a household with four siblings and a single mother. That’s hard, especially when there isn’t enough money to feed one person let alone six. I try my best to take care of my brothers and sisters, but I am sick just as much as they are. I don’t have time for schoolwork and I’m not good at it. My mother once said, “School was a worry to her.

She was not glib or quick in a world where glibness and quickness were easily confused with ability to learn. To her overworked and exasperated teachers she was an overconscientious "slow learner" who kept trying to catch up and was absent entirely too often.” This is true, but it is nothing to be worried about. I have the knowledge and the ability to make it in this world. Trust me. I know more about myself than my mother ever could. She doesn’t even have time to talk to me, through no fault of her own.

As for my self-esteem issues, I don’t have any. I don’t find myself particularly attractive, but you find more average and homely people than attractive ones in the world. My mother is fond of saying that, “She fretted about her appearance, thin and dark and foreign-looking at a time when every little girl was supposed to look or thought she should look a chubby blond replica of Shirley Temple,” which is ridiculous. Shirley Temple’s mother spent four hours a night ragging Shirley’s hair to get those perfect curls. I am beautiful the way I am and I am doing the best that I can do with what I have.

I want you to stop spending your time worrying about me. I am and will be fine. I may not be the great student you expect or the girl that flaunts her beauty in front of others, but I am great with me. I can take care of myself; I’ve been doing it for years.

Sincerely,  
Emily

REFLECTION:

From reading the story and the character charts, I believe that Emily is doing the best with what she has been given in her life. Her mother even admits to not knowing Emily well, so why should we assume that she knows what is best for Emily. I would like to believe that Emily's mother is making assumptions about Emily based on the little she know about her. When circumstances are hard, people have to survive any way they can. I would like to believe the Emily is a strong woman and is a survivor.

**RUBRIC: The Grade Sym gave herself**

<b>53</b> /60	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Competent</b>	<b>Emerging</b>
<b>Length</b>  <b>2/5</b>	The letter takes up 2 pages or more	The letter is more than 1 page but less than 2 pages in length	The letter is less than 1 page in length
<b>Letter Topic</b>  <b>5/5</b>	The letter topic is well represented as a theme, motif or subplot of the short story and can be supported by the text	The letter topic is sufficiently alluded to as a theme, motif or subplot of the short story and can be supported by the text with 1 or 2 outstanding questions	The letter topic is not referenced in the text as a theme, motif or subplot of the short story. Leaves the reader several questions
<b>Letter Format</b>  <b>18/20</b>	The assignment followed well the format of the letter provided, including all the paragraph requirements	The assignment followed adequately the format of the letter provided, including some of the paragraph requirements	The assignment followed inadequately the format of the letter provided, leaving off some of the paragraph requirements.
<b>Creativity - Development of Emily's</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Maybe	No.

<b>POV</b>			
<b>19/20</b>			
<b>Self Reflection</b>	The self reflection in the assignment explains well what you learned about perspective in narration and how it connects to the bigger picture of feminist literature and female oppression.	The self reflection in the assignment explains adequately what you learned about perspective. It adequately connects to the bigger picture but still 1-2 questions remain	The self reflection in the assignment explains inadequately what you learned about perspective. It inadequately connects to the bigger picture and still Several questions remain regarding the conventions of feminist literature.
<b>9/10</b>			

Rubric comments: Your rubric doesn't quite follow your directions. You ask for something similar in the directions but it is not clear enough. You should also add a comments section at the bottom of the rubric where you can explain how you took points off.

-Sym

Formative Assessment:

I loved your development of Emily's voice and I can tell that you really used the text! I wish you would consider taking out the quotes from the text and reshaping these sections with your own

words. It would make these sections more believable as a young woman struggling to be heard if she were using her unique voice and give the reader a chance to hear your unique writing style. You have really done such a beautiful job with crafting the misunderstood young woman that I believe Emily would be, though you may also considering adding a paragraph talking about what Emily excels at and why she feels so mislabeled as an underachieving youth. This would really develop Emily's character and hit on one of the central themes of comedy as a way out. You did a lot of a great work talking about the responsibility's that she has as young woman and the stress that puts on her- perhaps if you expanded this concept (what does this mean for her future? Is she thinking much about the future? What does she think of the whole idea of needing school to get a job in the first place?) the reader might better understand the connection to feminist theory.

Your self-reflection, though it showed well what you read didn't tell me what you learned from the text and ultimately about feminism. I'd love for you to write me another reflection along the same lines, connecting all the great ideas you already have with what you know about the feminist movement at the time, why Emily's family was so poor and what the chances were of her ever escaping it. This is great work for just one class period and I am looking forward to the next draft!

Summative Assessment:

RUBRIC: Graded by Me (revised version)

<u>51</u> /60	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Competent</b>	<b>Emerging</b>
<b>Length</b>  <b>5/5</b>	The letter is over 1 page in length	The letter is one page in length	The letter is less than 1 page in length
<b>Letter Topic</b>	The letter topic is well represented as a theme, motif or	The letter topic is sufficiently alluded to as a theme, motif or	The letter topic is not referenced in the text as a

<p><b>5/5</b></p>	<p>subplot of the short story and can be supported by the text</p>	<p>subplot of the short story and can be supported by the text with 1 or 2 outstanding questions</p>	<p>theme, motif or subplot of the short story. Leaves the reader several questions</p>
<p><b>Letter Format</b></p> <p><b>20/20</b></p>	<p>The assignment followed well the format of the letter provided, including all the paragraph requirements</p>	<p>The assignment followed adequately the format of the letter provided, including some of the paragraph requirements</p>	<p>The assignment followed inadequately the format of the letter provided, leaving off some of the paragraph requirements.</p>
<p><b>Creativity - Development of Emily's POV</b></p> <p><b>17/20</b></p>	<p>The letter expounds on four (or more) traits that the narrator reveals about Emily in the text and adds a personal flare/explanation.</p>	<p>The letter expounds on two to three traits that the narrator reveals about Emily in the text and adds a personal flare/explanation.</p>	<p>The letter quotes one or less traits that the narrator reveals about Emily in the text and does not add a personal flare or explanation.</p>
<p><b>Self Reflection</b></p> <p><b>4/10</b></p>	<p>The self-reflection in the assignment explains well what you learned about perspective in narration and how it connects to the bigger picture of feminist literature and female oppression.</p>	<p>The self-reflection in the assignment explains adequately what you learned about perspective. It adequately connects to the bigger picture but still 1-2 questions remain</p>	<p>The self-reflection in the assignment explains inadequately what you learned about perspective. It inadequately connects to the bigger picture and still Several questions remain regarding the conventions of feminist literature.</p>