

### Culminating Writing Task Directions

“We must not see any person as an abstraction. Instead, we must see in every person a universe with its own secrets, with its own treasures, with its own sources of anguish, and with some measure of triumph.”

--Elie Wiesel from *The Nazi Doctors and the Nuremberg Code*

#### Activity One: Analyze the prompt

Evaluate the effectiveness of Skloot’s style in portraying the story of HeLa cells as being as much about the people as it is about the science.

Write an essay that compares and contrasts the way Rebecca Skloot tells Henrietta’s story with how others in the scientific community or media have portrayed Henrietta and her situation. What details are emphasized in various accounts? Use proper grammar, conventions, spelling, and grade-appropriate words and phrases. Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support your argument and analysis.

1. What kind of prompt is this?
2. The prompt asks you to discuss details. Which other two elements of style do you want to write about?
  - ☐ Diction
  - ☐ Imagery
  - ☐ Language
  - ☐ Syntax
  - ☐ Tone
2. (b) Why did you choose these elements of style?
3. Which science writer do you want to compare and contrast with Skloot?
  - ☐ Rebecca Faden, “Immortal Cells, Moral Issues”
  - ☐ Dale Keiger, “Immortal Cells, Enduring Issues”
  - ☐ Robert D. Truog,, et. al, “Paying Patients for Their Tissues
  - ☐ Sarah Zielinski, “Henrietta Lacks’ Immortal Cells”
4. (b) Why did you choose that text?

### Activity Two: Claim Paragraph

Although science writers Rebecca Skloot and \_\_\_\_\_ both \_\_\_\_\_ (strong verb) \_\_\_\_\_ (central idea), Skloot's \_\_\_\_\_ (adjective) style is more effective. She uses \_\_\_\_\_ (describe element of style), \_\_\_\_\_ (describe element of style) and \_\_\_\_\_ (describe element of style) in order to \_\_\_\_\_.

### Activity Three: Outlining the Essay

Essay Section	Outline	Evidence
<b>Introduction:</b> Introduce two topics being compared and lead into the thesis statement. Use the quote from Elie Wiesel.		<b>Quote from Weisel:</b> <i>person as an abstraction</i>
<b>Body Paragraph 1:</b> Discuss #1 element of Skloot's style that will be compared/contrasted.	Details. Skloot emphasis  to illustrate	<b>Examples from Text:</b>
<b>Body Paragraph 2:</b> Discuss the #2 element of Skloot's style that will be compared/contrasted.	Skloot employs  to show the reader	<b>Examples from Text:</b>
<b>Body Paragraph 3</b> Discuss the #3 element of Skloot's style that will be compared/contrasted.	Syntax. Skloot uses  to convey	<b>Examples from Text:</b>

<p><b>Body Paragraph 4</b> Transition and describe how the science writer's style differs from Skloot's style.</p>	<p>Details:</p> <p>_____ (writer) emphasis</p> <p>This is dissimilar to Skloot because</p> <p>Why is this style more or less effective than Skloot's?</p> <p>Some may argue that _____; however, _____.</p>	<p><b>Examples from Text:</b></p>
<p><b>Conclusion Paragraph 5</b> Conclusion: Describe the effect of Skloot's emphasis on the story of Henrietta Lacks. What does this portrayal reveal about bioethics, the study of ethic that arises from advancements in science or medicine ?</p>	<p>Restate your claim:</p> <p>Skloot's portrayal of Henrietta's story shows that _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____.</p>	<p><b>Call to action:</b> What conclusion should the reader draw from these claims? What should society do as a result of this debate? How is this relevant to society and science/technology?</p>