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Charlie Gordon & Algernon's operation

The operation that changed Charlie Gordon's life. "Flowers for Algernon", a fiction short story, written by Daniel Keyes. FFA is about two unintelligent living things that have the same operation done and the same outcome. However in between that many different and interesting things happen to both of them. My theme is change. The three ways the story explores change is through Charlie's intelligence, Algernon's behavior and how Charlie starts to speak, in a more intelligent way.

First, They used Charlie's intelligence to show change in this story. According to the short story "Flowers for Algernon", it says, "I beat Algernon!" That shows you how Charlie slowly starts to gain more intelligence throughout the story. It connects to change because it shows that Charlie was not the brightest person in the beginning but after the operation he started to learn more and faster. It also shows how the progress was amazing and then just dropped very fast. Also, the story shows how his writing was by showing how Charlie wrote, "Today, I learned, the *comma*, this is a comma (,) a period, with a tail, Miss Kinnian, says its important, because, it makes writing, better, she said, somebody, could lose, a lot of money, if a comma, keeps you, from losing it, But she says, everybody, uses commas, so Ill use,them too," After a while his punctuation went from very bad to knowing what he was writing to being able to understand it perfectly. But after a months his perfect spelling and grammar faded away. This connects to change because Charlie was super smart and the work from the operation did not stay forever so he became the old Charlie again.

This is one of the ways it shows how change is explored in this story.

Second, They used Algernon and his behavior of obeying. In FFA it states, "I visited the lab to

see him as I do occasionally, and when I took him out of his cage, he snapped at my hand.” That means Algernon was becoming a different mouse. His behavior was calm and he always listened and followed directions. Then all of a sudden he becomes disobedient and vicious. That’s proof of change because it tells you how he changed his behavior toward Charlie. Also in the story it says , “He is less co-operative; he refuses to run the maze anymore; general motivation has decreased.” That means Algernon has to learn and figure out a maze to get his food and because he’s so calm about it and uses what the operation gave him he gets his food easy. He starts to not cooperate with it and starts to refuse to run the maze for his food. This relates to change because Algernon never snapped at Charlie, they were friends. This is another way the story shows how change is expressed.

Third, The way Charlie talked before and how he talked/had conversations with people before the operation versus after. Stated in the short story, “Flowers for Algernon”, it says, “he said think. I told him i think a inkblot but that wasnt rite eather.” The shows that Charlie never used quotation marks when people talked or know how write down a conversation. He wrote it like a paragraph. The next piece of evidence will show how Charlie’s way of communicating and writing it down changed. It also has proof in this quote, “ “All right! All right, you dope.” shouted the owner, “don’t just stand there!Get the broom and sweep that mess up....” ” This quote shows that Charlie is now using quotation marks and proper language. Also he knows how to talk/write more intelligent. This connects to change because it is proof that Charlie had no idea how to have a write down and conversation someone saying something and the after the operation and a little learning he started sounding more proper for his age. This is the last way how the story explores/expresses change.

Lastly, The theme of the story is changing overtime.It’s important because it explains what the story’s about and what's the main point. If you do not extract the theme from the story then it will make

no sense to you. It affects people in society because the theme does not only go with the story, it also goes with life. Some people will understand that in life overtime you also change too. In conclusion, FFA is a story about how one operation made Charlie the happiest man ever and then the saddest. He worked hard you get where the got to just for it to suddenly stop and forget everything. The basic sum of it is that no matter what change happens overtime.