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I wanted to teach youoh, everything the earth is full of Helen, everything on it thats ours for a wink and its gone, and what we are on it, thelight of words, everything we feel, think, know, and share, in words, so not a soul is in darkness, or done with, even in the grave. (Annie Sullivan, in The Miracle Worker) A flame burns brighter when strong winds are blowing: it leaps into the shadows, and its fire gathers more light to push the darkness out. I From City of the Heart, poems by Robert J. Smithdas, 1966 (first deaf-blind person to earn an advanced degree) Imagine yourself imprisoned in a foreign land where no one speaks your language, you understand no one, and everyone assumes you are stupid or recoils from you as if you were possessed of a dread disease or insane. Imagine your frustration, imagine your frustration frustratio you, oblivious to you. We take a great deal for granted about our day to day lives. Most of us think more about our fully functioning five senses and our ability to communicate with those around us effortlessly, at any time. We complain a lot: 500 channels and there is nothing on television to watch, a wayward faucet is dripping incessantly, the person sitting next to us on the bus is marinated in Chanel No. 5 at 8:00 a.m., the salsa flame broils our tongue. The Miracle Worker by William Gibson, and the truly inspiring tale of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan Macy, makes our world and our petty gripes swerve back into focus. The Miracle Worker is a remarkable tale of strength, courage, dedication, sheer obstinacy, and love. It is a triumphant ode to human spirit and potential. Most of all, this play is a celebration of a young womans rebirth into the world around her. Strategically battling and retreating, offering cake, flowers, and water, Annie Sullivan fed Helen Keller the universe through her hands. Following in Helens lead after many years, the audience is reawakened to the limitless possibilities of being alive when Annie spells W-A-T-E-R into Helens hand (Wheelock Family Theatre Study Guide prepared by Kimberly Elliott). Discussion Questions: The Miracle Worker Use the following questions to think about the play and to spark conversation with your peers. How do different characters in the play view Helen? Pick one character and explore in great detail how you think they feel that way. How do you think Helen feels at the beginning of the play? Explain your answer. Why do you think Helen feels at the beginning of the play? Explain your answer. Why do you think Helen feels at the beginning of the play? Explain your answer. Helen tips her sister out of the cradle? Are keys important in The Miracle Worker? Explain your answer. If you were Helen, how would you want other people to treat you? Do you think too much love can be as dangerous as hate? Explain your answer. How were the deaf and blind viewed historically? What happened to Annies brother? How does Annie feel about what happened to him? How would you feel if the same thing happened to someone you love? What are the first three adjectives that come to your mind to describe each of the main characters in the play? Who is The Miracle Worker and why is he or she a miracle worker? The actress who plays Helen Keller has few lines with which to communicate her character to you. What are some of the non-verbal ways in which she might communicate Helens thoughts and feelings and make the character of Helen? How do you usually let people know when you are angry? Do you think the way you express your anger would be different if you were deaf and blind? Explain your answer. Have you ever ignored or avoided a person who is deaf, blind, or deaf-blind because you do not know how to relate to him or her? Explain your answer. This Study Guide consists of approximately 63pages of chapter summaries, quotes, character analysis, themes, and more - everything you need to sharpen your knowledge of The Miracle Worker. This Study Guide consists of approximately 63pages of chapter summaries, quotes, character analysis, themes, and more - everything you need to sharpen your knowledge of The Miracle Worker. Discuss the use of food and drink as significant parts of the action of The Miracle Worker has been described by some critics as "too sentimental." Do you agree? What, then, does "sentimental" mean? Read Two for the Seesaw. What are the qualities of Anne Bancroft as an actress that would prompt directors to cast her as the heroine of two such different plays as The Miracle Worker and Two for the Seesaw? How many kinds of sign language are used in the U. S.? Research the methods of hand-spelling used with people who are both deaf and blind(read more) Copyrights The Miracle Worker from Gale. 2005-2006 Thomson Gale, a part of the Thomson Corporation. All rights reserved. Ask a QuestionAnswers:1Asked byAlejandro P #1117800Last updated byAslanon 2/26/2021 4:00 AMAnswers:1Asked bytoto v #1021520Last updated byjill d #170087on 5/15/2020 5:37 PMpages 64-84Check The The Miracle Worker Act III Summary1. Question: What is the significance of language in Annie's teaching method for Helen's growth. It is through language that Helen can express herself, learn about her environment, and ultimately gain freedom from her silence. Question: How does Annie feel about teaching Helen, but she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and what challenges does she face? Annie feel about teaching Helen and teachi comes with that. Annie worries that simply learning words won't be sufficient if Helen does not understand their meanings, leading to a sense of urgency and emotional exhaustion. Question: How does Annie's interaction with both Helen and the Kellers illustrate her passion for teaching? Annie's interactions reveal her relentless drive to teach Helen, even in the face of skepticism from the Kellers. She insists on maintaining a strict teaching approach, believing that any indulgence will hinder Helen to help her understand language, showcasing her belief that education is a transformative experience.4. Question: What does Annie mean when she says, 'The world isnt an easy place for anyone'? This reflects Annie's understanding that life is filled with challenges, and she wants Helen to be prepared for them. Teaching Helen requires fortitude and a realistic approach to overcoming obstacles, rather than coddling her. Annie recognizes that true empowerment comes from enabling Helen to confront and navigate the difficulties of life. 5. Question: In what way does the final scene marks a profound breakthrough for Helen as she begins to connect words with their meanings, demonstrating her cognitive development. When she spells 'Teacher' to Annie, it signifies her first steps toward self-expression and understanding. This moment embodies the culmination of Annie's commitment to Helen symbolizes a vow or promise to not only educate her but to cherish and nurture her potential. She feels a profound responsibility to give Helen the tools to succeed, sharing a deep emotional connection that underscores the significance of their relationship.7. Question: How does Annies perspective on obedience differ from the Kellers' view? Annie believes that obedience without understanding is akin to blindness and is not beneficial for Helen. In contrast, the Kellers seem to value obedience as a sign of progress and normalcy. Annie's insistence on teaching Helen to truly understand and use language sets her apart, as she strives for a deeper connection that goes beyond compliance. 8. Question: What does the exchange between James and Keller signify about the family dynamics? James interjection reveals the underlying tensions and differing philosophies within the Keller family regarding Helens upbringing. James advocates for Annies approach while challenging Kellers authority, indicating his own evolving perspective on familial responsibility and the importance of Helens education.9. Question: How does the recurring theme of 'names' shape the narrative? The theme of names reinforces the connection between identity, language, and understanding. Annie teaches Helen to engage with her surroundings and assert her identity.10. Question: What does Annies struggle symbolize in the context of education and disability? Annies struggle symbolizes the broader challenges faced by educators working with individuals with disabilities. It encapsulates the fight for recognition, understanding, and the opportunity to learn, emphasizing the profound impact that dedicated teaching can have on a person's life. In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. ReviewsThis product has not yet been rated.

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