Famous Character Essay/Biography Book Report Assignment

Use this outline to **guide you** as you write your essay.

**Remember that there may be more information about certain characters than others. Include as much information as possible. If you have a lot of trouble, see me and we will adjust the guidelines.**

**You will be writing this report in first person. (For example: I am famous for…) See the attached sample essay.**

**Written in paragraph form – See the sample essay I included.**

**Remember: Include topic sentences and supporting details.**

I. **Introduction:** Early life / Personal statistics
   - Name the date of birth and death (if known)
   - Name of birthplace
   - Parents’ background (their names, personal background, education, influence on the character (you), etc.)
   - Educational background or training
   - Special interests/talents/abilities

   Some characters may not have very much information about his/her early life. Just do the best you can.

II. **Accomplishments**
   - Describe this person’s (your) important accomplishments-professional and/or personal.
   - How did he/she accomplish these goals?
   - Did he/she (you) have to overcome difficult circumstances to achieve his/her (your) goal?

III. **Conclusion – Brief summary**
   - Conclude your essay with the most important information your reader should remember about this person (you). (Why you were famous.)

IV. **Personal observations/lesson(s) learned**
   - You will write this last paragraph from **your own perspective** and not as the character.
   - Give your personal opinion about this person.
   - Do you admire this character? Why or why not?
   - If you could meet him/her, what questions would you ask him/her?
   - How was this person a good example to you?
   - What lesson(s) did you come away with after learning about him/her?
Be sure you also include:

- Prewrite note sheet – You may use the Circle and Flow Chart I included or use your own method (clustering, listing, etc.)
- Rough draft- Handwritten - Please skip lines- 300-500 words
- Cover sheet - Center: Name of character
  Lower right corner: Student name, due date

- Bibliography-List the biography book you read. If you used more resources (website, encyclopedia, etc.), list them, too.

Example:

Citing a book:

1. Author’s last name first

2. Title of book (underlined)

3. Place of publication
   Name of publisher
   Date of publication

Final copy:

- **Handwritten**: Use blue or black erasable ink; **single space**
  or

- **Typed**: Font: Size 12, New Times Roman; **double spaced**

See attached rubric/scoring guide for more information. Use it as a checklist.
FAMOUS CHARACTER REPORT
(This will be a combination book report and essay assignment.)

I KNOW THAT MY CHILD WILL BE WORKING ON A FAMOUS CHARACTER REPORT IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS.

HE/SHE WILL BE USING HIS/HER BOOK REPORT BOOK AND POSSIBLY OTHER RESOURCES.

PLEASE REFER TO THE INFORMATION PACKET THAT WAS SENT HOME.

IF I HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, I WILL NOTIFY THE TEACHER.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!
Mrs. Winger
kwinger@sfscs.org

FINAL DUE DATES: FRI., DEC. 6 (RECEIVE 3 BONUS POINTS IF A NEAT, COMPLETED REPORT IS TURNED IN.)

MON., DEC. 9 (FINAL DUE DATE)

__________________________________________________________________________
CHILD’S NAME

__________________________________________________________________________
PARENT SIGNATURE
February 22, 1732, is the day I was born, and I died on Dec. 14, 1799, in the state of Virginia. My parents were Augustine and Mary Washington. I grew up on a large farm called a plantation in Virginia. My father spent most of his time working at an ironworks that was located on the farm. Taking care of the family and the home were my mother’s main job. During my early childhood, I spent a lot of time exploring the land around my home of Mount Vernon with my sister and brothers. I went to school about eight years, and my best subject was arithmetic.

Fortunately, I was able to accomplish many things in my life. As a teenager, I really wanted to become a sailor in the British Royal Navy, but my mother would not give her permission to let me go. Next, I became interested in exploring the frontier. I became a surveyor and was able to mark out new farms in the wilderness.

When I became older, I joined the military. I fought in the French and Indian War and served as an aide to British General Edward Braddock. Leadership skills were something I was beginning to develop, and when I left the military I knew how to train other soldiers and run an army.

In 1775, the American colonies decided to become independent from Britain because King George was not listening to their concerns. During the Second Continental Congress, I was elected to be the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. The Revolutionary War was long and hard. Finally, after eight years, the war was over and American was free. I was able to go back to my home at Mount Vernon and spent some time with my wife Martha.
However, now that America was a new, independent country, it needed a government. Many patriots thought that I would make a good leader. Some wanted to make me a king, but I did not go along with that decision. I was elected the first president of the United States in 1789. While I was president, I had to make important decisions and appointed people to cabinet jobs that would help our country grow. Being the first president was a very difficult job.

As you can see, I tried very hard through my life to help my country. I tried to do well in whatever job I was given. Whether I was a surveyor, a military officer, or the president of the United States, I always tried to do what was right. I hope the American people will always remember me in a positive way.

**Personal Observations:**

There are some very interesting things I learned while writing this report on George Washington. First of all, I think George Washington was a courageous man. He showed courage while he was the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. The war took a long time and many men died, but he continued to be brave for his men and his country. If I could meet George Washington I would ask him, “If you were still alive, would you want to be president today? Why or Why not?” I think Washington is a good example to me, because he believed in God, and he often prayed for His help. A lesson I learned is even when things get very difficult, like they did during Valley Forge, I shouldn’t quit. I always need to rely on God’s help and strength.