





MAKING IMPRESSIONS



Key Vocabulary: *To Helen Keller*

Word	Definition	Picture	Sentence
anonymous	Unknown, unnamed		If no one knows who sent the gift, the gift giver is anonymous.
conquer	To beat, to defeat		I will conquer my fear of spiders.
contribute	To give, to donate		When you contribute to a project, you help and add your own ideas.
encouragement	Hope, support, praise		When a teacher says that I do a good job, it gives me encouragement

Key Vocabulary: *To Helen Keller*

Word	Definition	Picture	Sentence
imperfection	Detect, problem		One of the nails has a slight imperfection.
inspire	To encourage or influence.		My grandmother inspires me to do well.
overcome	To solve a problem.		I have overcome my fear of speaking in front of the class.
unforgettable	Not able to leave your mind; memorable		My first visit to Walt Disney World was unforgettable

Directions: Fill in the vocabulary boxes below. Write a sentence and then draw a picture.

<p>Word</p> <p>anonymous</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

<p>Word</p> <p>conquer</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

Directions: Fill in the vocabulary boxes below. Write a sentence and then draw a picture.

<p>Word</p> <p>contribute</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

<p>Word</p> <p>encouragement</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

Directions: Fill in the vocabulary boxes below. Write a sentence and then draw a picture.

<p>Word</p> <p>imperfection</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

<p>Word</p> <p>inspire</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

Directions: Fill in the vocabulary boxes below. Write a sentence and then draw a picture.

<p>Word</p> <p>overcome</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

<p>Word</p> <p>unforgettable</p>	<p>Sentence</p>
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<p>Picture</p>

Oral Review Work with a partner. Use these words to complete the paragraph.

anonymous

encouragement

overcome

conquered

imperfections

unforgettable

contributes

inspire

I'll never forget Sheila. Because of her, I (1) my fears and learned to walk again after my accident. She is truly (2)! She is a volunteer and (3) her time at the hospital to help people like me. She was able to (4) me with her kind words of (5). I did not think I could (6) my problems, but Sheila helped me look past my (7) and get better! I wrote a letter to the hospital to tell them how great Sheila is. I didn't want Sheila to remain just an unknown, or (8), volunteer.

An Extraordinary Life

Helen Keller

(1880–1968)

The most important day I remember in all my life is the one on which my teacher came to me.

Helen Keller taught the world to respect people who are blind and deaf. Her inspiration came from her own life. When she was a baby, she lost her vision and hearing. The tragedy “closed my eyes and ears and plunged me into the unconsciousness of a newborn baby,” Helen Keller said.

Keller’s parents tried many ways to help her. Then, when she was seven, her parents hired a tutor named Anne Sullivan.

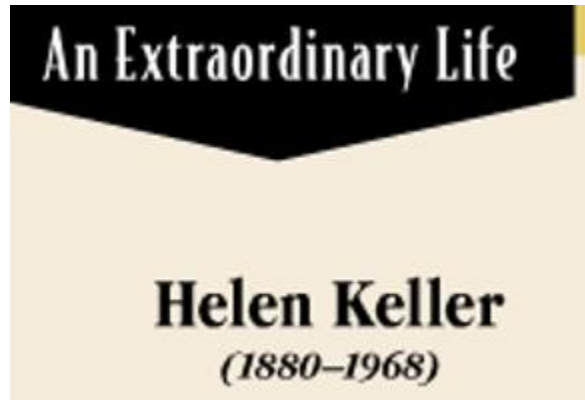
Sullivan was partially blind and had gone to a school for the blind. She had learned a form of sign

language, which she taught to her new pupil. Soon Keller was using her fingers to spell words, but she didn’t understand what the letters meant. All that changed one morning at the water pump. As Keller held one hand under the cold, running water, Sullivan spelled “W-A-T-E-R” into Keller’s other hand. Keller suddenly understood! The feeling of running water had turned into a word. On that day, Keller learned thirty words.

From then on, her mind raced ahead. She learned to speak when she was ten. When she was twenty, she entered college. Later, Helen Keller gave speeches around the world and helped raise money for the American Foundation for the Blind. She received dozens of awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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- Read more about Helen Keller.
- Read about her work for the American Foundation for the Blind.



Comprehension Questions

1) What did Helen Keller teach the world?

2) What did she lose when she was a baby?

3) Who was Helen Keller's tutor?

4) How did Helen Keller communicate with her tutor?

5) What are some of the things Helen Keller accomplished after she learned to speak?



To
Helen Keller

Helen Keller spoke to
the world through her
courage and kindness,
but what has the world
said to Helen Keller?
Here are the thoughts
of a professor and a poet.

Letter to Helen Keller

Professor Ernst Papanek wrote this letter to Helen Keller. He thanks Helen for an inspiring visit she made to children in Italy who had been injured during World War II.

June 28, 1965

Dear Helen,

In my mind I can still see you clearly, standing for hours talking to the students and answering their questions. The questions were not always the most intelligent ones. For instance: "How can you ride horseback when you can't see where the horse is going?" But you gave a wonderful answer. "I just hold onto the horse and let him run wherever he wishes!" And you and the children had a good laugh over this description. **1** Or when you said that after you had learned to speak, you became a **real blabbermouth!**

It was **unforgettable** and moving to see you touch the face of a blind child or kiss the face of a crippled one. How your face expressed your feelings. And how your love **inspired** the children to carry on in spite of the huge problems they had to **overcome**. You pushed them in the direction of a happier life. You were able to lead them because you had **conquered** your own handicaps and you were concerned with theirs. **2**

Key Vocabulary

unforgettable *adj.*, not able to leave your mind; memorable

inspire *v.*, to encourage or influence

overcome *v.*, to solve a problem

conquer *v.*, to beat, to defeat

In Other Words

a real blabbermouth very talkative



It doesn't sound good enough when I say this. But thank you for what you did for those children, and for all mankind, after that terrible war. Many people have found strength, **encouragement**, and help in your kindness and goodness. 📧

Gratefully yours,
Ernst Papanek

Style

How would you describe Papanek's style? Is the letter friendly or formal? Does the writer mostly use long, flowing sentences or short, choppy ones?



In 1946, Helen Keller began a world tour to raise funds to help blind people. In eleven years she traveled to thirty-five countries. Everywhere she went, people crowded around to see her. Here she is shown in Melbourne, Australia.



The radio was a new invention in the early 1900s. Helen Keller realized how important it could be for blind people. In a speech at the Lions Club, she asked business people to help pay for radios for poor blind children in New York City.

Key Vocabulary

encouragement n. hope, support, praise



Monitor Comprehension

Describe

What event does Papanek tell about in his letter? Describe the scene.

Letter to Helen Keller

Comprehension Questions

1) When was this letter written?

2) How does the author of the letter feel about Helen? How do you know?

3) Pick one of the photos from the article and tell what it is and why you think it is important.

4) What event motivated the author to write this letter to Helen Keller?

5) After reading this letter, choose 2 words that you think describe Helen Keller. Explain why you chose each word.



Helen Keller

by Langston Hughes

She,
In the dark,
Found light
Brighter than many ever see.

- 5 She,
Within herself,
Found loveliness,
Through the soul's own mastery.
And now the world receives
10 From her dower:
The message of the strength
Of inner power. ❏ ❖



Style

How would you describe the poet's style in lines 9–12? Is it simple or complicated? Is the speaker's tone playful or serious?

In Other Words

her dower gifts she left behind

Cultural and Historical Background

Historically, a *dower*, or *dowry*, was property a woman brought to her husband when they married, or the property a man gave to or for a bride. Many cultures have practiced such customs. In recent times, a dower is property left to surviving family. Helen Keller never married.



Comprehension Questions

1) Who wrote the poem Helen Keller?

2) What do you think it means when the poet writes “She, in the dark, Found light Brighter than many ever see.”?

3) After reading this poem, how do you think Helen Keller impacted the world?

Selection Review To Helen Keller



EQ What Do You Do to Make an Impression? Meet people who are or who want to be unforgettable.

- A. In "To Helen Keller," you read two writers' impressions of her. Complete the T Chart with the writers' descriptions of her.

T Chart

Ernst Papanek	Langston Hughes
"How your face expressed your feelings. And how your love inspired the children to carry on . . ."	

- B. Use the information in the chart to answer the questions.

1. Compare the writers' descriptions of Keller. How are their writing styles similar? How are they different?

2. How did Helen Keller inspire both writers? Use **inspire** in your answer.

3. Why do you think Keller is so unforgettable to so many people?

How Can I Fix a Fragment?

Add a Subject or a Predicate.

- A sentence is not complete unless it contains a subject and a predicate. If it does not have both, it is a **fragment**.

The social crusader Helen Keller.

After World War II, many blind children.

- To fix a fragment, add the missing part. What was added to make each fragment complete?

The social crusader Helen Keller **visited Italy**.

After World War II, **she helped** many blind children.

- Watch out for fragments in compound sentences, too. Remember that each clause needs a subject and a predicate. What was added to make this fragment complete?

Fragment: The children questions, and Helen Keller answered them.

Sentence: The children **asked** questions, and Helen Keller answered them.

Try It

- A. Add words to turn each fragment into a complete sentence. Then read the paragraph aloud.**

Helen Keller was amazing. First, _____ conquered her disabilities. Then she _____ inspiration to other people with disabilities. Keller _____ to distant countries, and _____ gathered to see her. She _____ people all around the world.

- B. Now write three sentences about Helen Keller. Make sure that each sentence has a subject and a predicate.**

How Else Can I Fix a Fragment?

Combine It With a Neighboring Sentence.

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- If a fragment is a phrase, you often can fix it by combining it with a neighboring sentence. The result might be a compound sentence.
Fragment: I admire Helen Keller. Am not alone.
Sentence: I admire Helen Keller, and I am not alone.
Fragment: Keller deaf and blind. She was not born that way.
Sentence: Keller was deaf and blind, but she was not born that way.
- If a fragment is a dependent clause, you often can fix it by combining it with a neighboring sentence. The result will be a complex sentence.
Fragment: Keller became sick. When she was nineteen months old.
Sentence: Keller became sick when she was nineteen months old.
Fragment: After she got better. She could not see or hear.
Sentence: After she got better, she could not see or hear.

Try It

- A. Use sentence combining to fix the fragments. Then say the new sentences.**
1. Helen Keller could not see. Could learn to spell.
 2. After Anne Sullivan arrived. She taught Keller to spell with her fingers.
 3. Put water on the child's hand. Spelled "water" in her other hand.
 4. Sullivan very proud. When Keller graduated from Radcliffe College.
- B. Talk with a partner about Helen Keller. Write your three best sentences. Check for fragments.**

How Can I Fix a Run-on Sentence?

Break It Into Two Sentences.

A **run-on sentence** is a very long sentence. You can fix a run-on sentence by breaking it into two compound sentences or a simple sentence and a compound sentence. (You may need to change some words.) How has this run-on sentence been fixed?

Run On: Sometimes I write with a pencil **and** sometimes I write with a pen **and** once the bookshelf was dusty **and** I wrote in the dust with my finger.

Better: Sometimes I write with a pencil, and sometimes I write with a pen. Once the bookshelf was dusty, and I wrote in the dust with my finger.

Better: Sometimes I write with a pencil or a pen. Once the bookshelf was dusty, and I wrote in the dust with my finger.

Try It

A. Fix each run-on and say the new sentence.

1. I read a letter written to Helen Keller, and I liked it a lot, and then I read a poem about Helen Keller, and I learned about her inner strength.
2. Helen Keller made her mark in the world, Carmen Tafolla is making a different kind of mark, and she writes poems.
3. Some poems rhyme, but “Marked” is not one of them, and its lines don’t end in rhyming words.

B. Talk with a partner about making your mark in the world. Write three sentences. Check for run-ons.