

What are the main conflicts in the story? Determine whether they are internal or external.

Rubiaux versus nature (Hurricane Katrina)	external conflict
Rubiaux versus himself (drug addiction, desperation)	internal conflict

Thesis Sentence 2: What does the conflict show about the character's persona?

The external conflict between Rubiaux and Hurricane Katrina shows that our protagonist (main character) is resourceful.

First Body Paragraph: *Whole class exemplar using external conflict*

Sub-claim or Topic Sentence (Rephrase your Thesis Sentence 2)

Rubiaux shows that he is resourceful when he overcomes the external conflict between himself and Hurricane Katrina.

Evidence 1 = Quote (Remember to cite the page number in parenthesis after the quote)

In this scene, Rubiaux demonstrates (shows) how resourceful he is when he realizes that he can use the metal plate from his head, in order to start a fire. Rubiaux "snatches it [the metal plate] up before it fades from view, shaking off the droplets, then trains the convex side sunward, compounding the rays into a blinding hotspot on the roof. In seconds tarpaper bursts into flame, coughing out thick, black hellfire smoke" (39).

Commentary = Explain how the words in the quote prove your idea about the character's persona. (Write 2-4 sentences)

From this quote, I can infer that Rubiaux pries the metal plate off his head, and uses the reflection from the metal to start a fire. As the tarpaper is burning, Rubiaux put the cooler over his head to protect his lungs, and climbed out of the attic through the new hole in the roof. The author is implying that Rubiaux is able to take household items and use them for survival, which is extremely resourceful.

Transition and Evidence 2 = Quote (Remember to cite the page number in parentheses after the quote):

Commentary = Explain how the words in the quote prove your idea about the character's persona (Write 2-4 sentences):

Concluding sentence = Rephrase your sub-claim/Topic sentence to end the paragraph:

Thesis Sentence 3: What is the theme or message that the author shows through the conflict?

The theme in "Rubiaux Rising" is that, no matter what obstacles we face, we should never give up hope.

Second Body Paragraph:

Transition word/phrase to link this paragraph to the first body paragraph:

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Sub-claim or Topic Sentence (Rephrase your Thesis Sentence 3)

Rubiaux demonstrates the universal theme of salvation, because he never gives up hope, no matter how many challenges he faces.

Evidence 1 = Quote (Remember to cite the page number in parenthesis after the quote)

In the final paragraph, the author writes, "as they set him down on the overpass near the Dome with the huddled bunches of others, Rubiaux knows his suffering is finally over -- help and comfort will surely be coming soon" (40).

Commentary = Explain how the words in the quote prove your idea about the character's persona. (Write 2-4 sentences)

In this scene, Rubiaux is being rescued by the helicopter. From this quote, I can infer that Rubiaux feels like his life is finally going to turn around, and everything is going to be okay -- he finally has hope. The author is implying that Rubiaux has faced life-threatening challenges, and still used his resourcefulness to overcome and transcend (to rise above).

Transition and Evidence 2 = Quote (Remember to cite the page number in parentheses after the quote):

<i>Commentary = Explain how the words in the quote prove your idea about the character's persona (Write 2-4 sentences):</i>
<i>Concluding sentence = Rephrase your sub-claim/Topic sentence to end the paragraph:</i>