***Flowers for Algernon*, by Daniel Keyes**

**Why Ask Why…or How?**

**Directions: Using information from the story and prior knowledge, answer these**

**open-ended questions with extended response statements. The answers should be in**

**complete sentences. A rubric is provided to highlight the criteria or expectations**

**each response should contain.**

1. How did having little or no intelligence affect Charlie’s feelings, emotions, and

perceptions?

2. Why did Miss Kinnian feel that Charlie was the best candidate for the operation?

3. Why were Charlie and Algernon subjected to the same tests?

4. How did the operation affect Charlie’s intelligence and his personality?

5. How did the operation affect Charlie’s relationship with people surrounding him?

6. How did the doctors know that the operation was not going to be permanently successful?

7. Why might an intelligence-altering operation be unethical or risky?

8. Why did the doctors not want Charlie to see Algernon after the surgery?

9. How did Charlie’s friends react to his becoming smarter?

10. How was knowing what the outcome would be difficult for Charlie?

***Marking Rubric***

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| **Grade** | **Content** | **Conventions** |
| **A** | Answers thequestion, and sticks to thetopic via strong topicsentence. The response isclear and evident ofcomprehension. Excellenttransitions are present. | Uses clear and accuratecomplete sentences withlittle or no grammaticalerrors. |
| **B** | Attempts to answer the question prompt andsticks to topic. Good transitions are present. | Mostly uses completesentences. There are somemistakesgrammatically. |
| **C** | Answers most questions, some answers off topic. Satisfactory transitions are present. | Satisfactory amount of complete sentences with some grammatical errors. |
| **D** | Not all questions are answered or many incomplete answers. Some content is vague andunclear. Some transitions present. | Mostly incomplete sentences with many grammatical errors. |
| **E** | No attempt to answer questions. | Incomplete sentences, with grammatical errors. |