Summer Reading Assignment for *One Amazing Thing* 10th grade

One Amazing Thing by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni parallels *The Canterbury Tales* written by Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century. Due to an earthquake in a passport and visa office in an unnamed American city, several people pass the time waiting for rescue by telling personal stories about their past. Choose ONE of the following assignments:

1. Write your personal narrative of the "one amazing thing" about your life.
(For both assignments)
500 words
1" margins
1st person
12 pt. font

2. Choose one character from this novel and write a description based upon the following information.

Name of Character
Physical description
Mental/Emotional description
What does character want?
What does character think of others?
What do others think of the character?   "Quote in quotations" (author last name pg#).
Include and cite quotes to support your discussion "Here is a quote" (Banerjee 66).

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Depth, details beginning, middle, end	Story is thorough with many sensory details. Clear beginning, middle and end	Story is mostly thorough with some sensory details. Beginning, middle and end	Not many details. No clear beginning, middle, and end.	Little to no details or beginning, middle, or end.
Grammar, punctuation	0-2 grammar or punctuation errors	3-5 grammar or punctuation errors	6-8 grammar or punctuation errors.	9 or grammar or punctuation errors.
Thoughts, dialogue, imagery	Story has several thoughts, dialogue, and imagery	Some thoughts, dialogue and imagery	Little clear thought, dialogue, and imagery	No clear thought, dialogue or imagery
Focused on topic	Story remains focused	Mostly on topic	Lacks focus	No clear focus.
Plot and character development	Character develops; story advances plot	Some character development and advancing plot	Little character development or advancing of plot	No character development or plot

18-20 A
15-17 B
12-14 C
9-11   D

	Characterization Rubric			
Standard: EL.HS.LI.05 Analyze the author's development of characters in a literary text through direct and indirect means.				
	Exceeds 4	**Meets 3**	**Nearly Meets 2**	**Beginning 1**
Characterization	• Demonstrates strong, thorough understanding of major character	• Demonstrates understanding of major character	• Demonstrates basic understanding of major character	• Demonstrates little understanding of major character and/or recites plot events
Textual Evidence	• Identifies well-chosen examples of direct and/or indirect characterization that reveal an original, unique insight about the character.	• Identifies relevant examples of direct and/or indirect characterization that reveal an insight about the character.	• Identifies obvious examples of direct and/or indirect characterization that reveal basic information about the character.	• Identifies incorrect or unimportant examples of direct and/or indirect characterization that reveals little about the character.
Analysis	In-depth analysis includes logical and insightful inferences about character development and emphasizes key aspects of the character.	Analysis includes logical inferences about character development and emphasizes important aspects of the character.	Analysis includes obvious and general inferences of character development and does not include important aspects of the character.	Little to no analysis or inferences of character development.
Conventions	0-2 grammar or punctuation errors	3-5 grammar or punctuation errors	6-8 grammar or punctuation errors.	9 or grammar or punctuation errors.

14-16 A
12-13 B
10-11 C
8-9   D