

Erick Garcia

Per. ½

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Charlies Contributions To Discoveries Over Time

In the city of New York, Charlie Gordon, a person suffering from a mental disease, is realizing many new things on his expedition to only discover what he has not yet known. In the short story, "Flowers for Algernon", by Daniel Keyes, the main character, Charlie Gordon shows signs of determination, bravery, and discovery. In the story, a man by the name of Charlie Gordon is mentally disadvantaged. He stands with an Intelligence Quotient of 68, being below average, and 85-115 being considered average. After knowing this, we see that Charlie was dedicated to raising his intelligence. Because of his hard dedication, he was chosen to as a test subject in a surgery to triple his intelligence. As time progressed, he started realizing something he didn't know. He finds out how he used to be before the surgery. This leads to the statement, bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time.

To begin with, determination this is explored by multiple events throughout the story. Throughout the story, Charlie Gordon shows many was of determination to become smarter throughout the story. During the story before Charlie had gotten the operation he is determined to become smart like the other people around him. In other words he looks up to people that have a better image than him. As noted in page 290, "I can't wait to be smart like my best friends Joe Carp and Frank Reilly". In other words, Charlie meant that he wanted to do his best to be like his friends so that he could be as smart as them. This leads to the topic of him being determined and the theme, bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time by showing how he

does not want to give up and how he was determined to achieve his goal of becoming smart. To back-up this statement, he(Charlie) exceeds his potential to his limit. An example of this occurs when the Charlie says, "I know I should rest, but I'm driven by something inside that won't let me stop". In other words, Charlie had no border that got into his path without being broken. This relates to determination because he shows that he didn't want to stop after knowing that he should take a break for his best. This is how bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time.

Due to the fact, that bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time, Charlie demonstrates bravery throughout the story. Before he got the operation, Charlie showed bravery by not caring about his physical health but being devoted to his task which was becoming smart. An example of bravery occurs when Charlie says, "They said it will probably be temporary. I said yes. Miss Kinnian told me. I don't care if it hurts". In other words Charlie preferred suffering physically then being stupid and different from the rest. This is different because if another person were in his place they would have either done the same or have been themselves. Many people would consider this brave because he did not care about what could happen to himself. Another part that could back up the statement that he was brave was that he did not care what others had thought about him. He took a risk to defend a boy who is mentally retarded. According to Charlie, "Shut up!! Leave him alone! It's not his fault he can't understand! He can't help what he is! But for God's sake...he's still a human being!". In other words, Charlie stood up for the boy not caring about other ones' thoughts. He decided to be brave and not think about ones thoughts but about the boy. This bravery helped him lead to discovery by not giving

up and showing that taking risks and making mistakes is essential to success and discoveries over time.

Because, he was so dedicated and brave this led him to discovery over time. Charlie showed that anything can be accomplished if you discover the true meaning to something. According to Charlie, "That's why I'm gonna keep trying to be smart so I can get that feeling again". In other words he didn't give up because he wanted that experience that he had at once. This is important because determination leads to this statement of getting that feeling over again and bravery was important because he went through a rough time to get where he is at now. Another way that he showed change or discovery was when he stood up for a "mentally retarded" boy who had accidentally dropped some plates on the floor and broken them. This can be found on page 299, "I'd hidden the picture of the old Charlie Gordon from myself because now that I was intelligent it was something that had to be pushed out of my mind. But today in just looking at that boy, for the first time I saw what I had been. I was just like him". In other words Charlie saw how people viewed him as for being mentally unstable. This shows discovery over time with dedication and bravery because this wouldn't have happened if he didn't realize how people felt towards him in multiple perspectives. People made fun of Charlie and that was just because he had a mental disadvantage. Charlie realizes this after this event. This is the discovery he makes due to his determination and bravery. He discovers that not all people think and feel the same way towards each other although they are all human beings.

Consequently, Charlie showed determination, bravery, and discovery. This theme of bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time is important because it shows how a person can gain acknowledgement over time in their present life and future life. It is also

important because it shows that not all people have the same point of views as other such as in the story when Charlie realized how people thought about him when he had his mental illness and didn't realize what was going on. This theme can affect the in many ways, such as realizing that not everyone can achieve discovery if they do not have determination and bravery to fail. This is why bravery and determination contributes to discovery over time is one of the main ideas that Keyes wanted to communicate with “Flowers for Algernon”.