Character Descriptive Paragraph Assignment

Short stories are usually rich in character development. Choose one of the characters you have encountered in one of the readings and write a descriptive paragraph that describes him/her.

Include the following items:

- The character's name, age, brief physical description, and role in the story
- Info about the character's behaviour (what he/she says, does, thinks, and acts) and how he/she develops in the piece
- Include, where relevant, others reactions to the character (that may differ from what the character is really like)
- The character's personality traits (the most important part of the assignment!)
- Proof to support your opinions/claims of the character - the proof comes from the story - you may pull out exact quotations, or simply recap events/etc. from the story

Assignment Requirements:

- Should be typed or neatly printed in blue or black ink, double-spacing required
- Must include class information in the top-left corner (your name, date, course, teacher's name)
- Should be 150 - 250 words in length (about ½ page to ¾ page when typed & double-spaced)
- Give it a catchy title (not just the character's name - be creative)
- Needs to include the above criteria that develops the character
- Must be written in proper paragraph format (indentation, topic sentence, supporting details and examples, concluding sentence)
- Should employ the PPE Method of development (Point, Proof, Explanation)
- Should use specific and meaningful word choices
- Should use correct and varied sentence structures
- Should be carefully edited to avoid errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, etc.
- Should be unique and interesting to read, offering insights to the character

Character Descriptive Paragraph Due Date: Friday, March 18th
Anna John: Such A Spirited Soul

Anna John was a misunderstood Native American woman living on Prince Edward Island, and her life story was quite tragic. At the age of seventy-seven, as an old, wise, wrinkly woman, who had been through too much, Anna was revived back to life, against her will. She was well-prepared to pass on and hopefully find peace in the afterlife, but the white man, like so many times before, denied her wishes. She spent the last few days of her life speechless and motionless in a hospital bed—the stroke had paralyzed her. Anna was a very proud and stubborn woman. Although the white man attempted to beat her culture out of her when she was a child, she eventually married and relearned some of her heritage, and cherished those practices. Her life was full of tragedy and woe, and she seemed to carry much of those feelings with her to the grave, reflecting back on the past tortures and difficulties she had received. She was misunderstood, mostly because the white man wanted to have no understanding of her background, and on several occasions, she was sent to the “crazy house” for performing different cultural practices, like her burial rituals. In her later years, her husband fell victim to war, and her child was taken from her. However, no one was ever able to completely break her spirit, for even on her death bed Anna wanted to make her foot (the only moving part of her body) dance, reminiscent of some of her happier memories. Hopefully she found peace in the after life, where she could be truly herself.

< Here is a character description. The highlighted sections are traits or words that describe Anna’s physical appearance, personality, actions, and how others reacted to her. You do not need to highlight your words – this is just for example purposes only. Try to include all of these aspects in one smooth paragraph. >