

Letter of Recommendation Response Examples

Example 1:

I would describe my essential character as compassionate and passionate. I am very motivated to help people and animals and will give my all to do so. The most important thing to me is making sure I am helping the community any way I can.

I got sucked in to helping the rabbits of Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary when I was 11. I volunteered a few times, and fell in love. About two weeks after I began volunteering, the sanctuary took 132 rabbits in from one backyard. They had been kept in terrible conditions and three of the females were pregnant. I spent 8 hours every single day cleaning the messiest bunny rooms, because that's where the cutest new residents were housed: the babies. Soon enough, a little one took a liking to me and started following me everywhere. He only had one ear and our sanctuary manager named him Van Gogh. I waited only the time necessary, and took him home exactly one month after I first set foot in the sanctuary. A few months later, I fell in love with one of the babies who had been born just after the hoarding situation. He immediately took a liking to his "big brother" Van Gogh and I named him DaVinci to match. Fast-forward almost six years from then. My first two rabbits have since passed away due to their harsh early lives, but I've adopted another "backyard bunny," Rex. Rex was originally so shy he wouldn't let you look at him. I had to walk into the room backwards and not say a word. Eventually, he started to come out of his shell. It's been nine months since then, and he is the spunkiest rabbit I know. He begs for attention every time he thinks he hears a person approaching. He might be almost 8, a senior in most cases, but he still runs around like a spring chicken. Oddly enough though, he isn't who I would say I have helped the most, or who has helped me the most.

Example 2:

I am also very determined. I've been described as persistent, persevering, strong-willed, and my mom sometimes calls me stubborn. These adjectives describe my tendency to go through with whatever I put my mind to. I set goals for myself and I see to them, despite the obstacles that come up along the way. I enjoy challenging myself and testing my persistence. I've always been a little on the un-athletic side, but in seventh grade, I chose to join track and field (to challenge myself). A day before one of my meets, my coach came up to me and told me she had put me in the 200-meter hurdles. I was speechless because that was the single event I had explicitly specified as one I did not want to participate in. The next day, I was up at the starting line, never having done hurdles before in my life. I was off to a good running start, ahead of the rest of the heat. Having conquered two hurdles with much difficulty, I approached the third hurdle with the rest of the heat in line with me. I couldn't get over it. My face hit the rubber track before the rest of my body did and for a few seconds, I couldn't feel anything. I heard other runners get farther away and I heard my coach tell me I could forfeit. But I didn't forfeit – I got up and I finished the rest of the race. It was awfully embarrassing to cross the finish line in last place, scratched and bruised, but what my coach said to me made it rewarding, for her words have stuck by me since then. She looked at me with awe (and a little bit of pity) and said, "You could have quit and you could have argued with me and you could have not shown up today – but you didn't. You are a strong-willed girl and you need to stay that way."