Student Activity 1

On the Basis of Sex focuses on Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the protagonist. Recall other characters from the movie. With whom do you most closely identify?

Below, complete the sentence “Of all the characters in On the Basis of Sex, I identify most with ….” Then, describe that character in at least three sentences. Following those sentences, write why you relate to that character.

Of all the characters in On the Basis of Sex, I identify most with ________________________________

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Filmmakers use visual information to tell stories. They can use color, size, position, composition and lighting. The visual information can suggest a character’s personality, emotions and perspective. For instance, when Ruth Bader Ginsburg first appears, she is surrounded by dull-colored business suits. Her bright blue dress stands out. With one frame, the filmmakers show she is unique.

Recall another frame from the film On the Basis of Sex. If you did Activity #1, the frame can include the character you wrote about. Picture the frame in your mind and think about how it was composed. Where were the figures? How big were they? What was in the background? What colors popped out? Do your best to draw a memorable shot from the movie in the box below. Your drawing doesn't have to be perfect. Just start drawing to remember.

After you’ve done your best to draw the scene, write about what makes it memorable. Write about the effects of the color, size, composition and framing. What does it convey?