

In his introduction to *The Best American Short Stories 1986*, which he edited, American author Raymond Carver lists the five elements he considers important to a short story: "...choices, conflict, drama, consequence, and narrative."

In a four-paragraph essay (introduction, two body paragraphs, conclusion), choose two of these elements and analyze their importance in Carver's short story "The Bath." Your essay should include a clear thesis statement that indicates your argument and body paragraphs that support your analysis. In your essay, strive for varied sentence structure, limited passive voice, and limited use of "to be" verbs.