

Prompt: A role model is a person you look up to. Before you begin writing, think about someone you look up to. Why do you admire this person? Write a composition in which you explain to your classmates whom you admire and why you admire this person.

Essay:

The title role model is given to those who earn the position. Not all can simply have the title handed over to them. Life isn't always going to treat you right. It'll kick you so hard in the stomach that you'll fall down and have to contemplate whether or not you want to get up. But the thing is, you always have to get up. The person you are, the person you become, the person you used to be, is all based on things that surround you in life. The people you choose to make your role models will have a colossal impact on you, and not all can see that. In my life, I found that there are various people I can call my role model, whether they are someone I know personally or someone you see from afar. On the list of people I have in mind, there are a few I wouldn't mind picking out and writing about, yet there is one that seems to stand out: Angelina Jolie. Angelina Jolie is not my role model because she is just a "super cool" actress that everyone is in love with. Behind her whole acting scene there is something bigger than that. There is a warm heart that is determined to help people who are in need. Jolie does various humanitarian work and is helping people out all the time. Angelina Jolie is a dedicated humanitarian.

We all want someone who is willing to do anything for us. The slightest bit of affection and appreciation can make your day, especially when you're surrounded with nothing but loneliness. Angelina Jolie is going out to countries that are dangerous, the times she goes are not the safest either. " Angelina is beyond admirable in her courage for visiting highly volatile areas, during her time as a Goodwill Ambassador she's visited Darfur in Sudan during the vicious conflict there, Chad during its civil war, Iraq and Libya during the Libyan revolution" (Ramsdale). She works to help people at the same time she is risking her own life. The field missions she goes on threaten her own life, and not many people take time to recognize the great deeds she does. The variety of things she does can go on forever. "Since 2001, Jolie has been on field missions around the world and met with refugees and internally displaced persons in more than 20 countries, including Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Cambodia, Pakistan, Thailand, Ecuador, Kosovo, Kenya, Namibia, Sri Lanka, North Caucasus, Jordan, Egypt, New Delhi, Costa Rica, Chad, Syria, and Iraq, to name a few, and most recently visited earthquake victims in Haiti on her latest trip to help survivors of conflict and natural disaster" ("Angelina Jolie Charity Work, Events, Causes").

There are so many charities out there that give aid to people. Jolie supports over 20 charities, and donates millions of dollars. People must look past the superficial look she has of being just an incredible actor and beautiful woman. She has an

amazing heart, and understands the hardships people go through. Her and her fiancé Brad Pitt both donated a lot of money to charity. "All told, they gave more than \$8 in donations in 2006..." (Messer). The money that they give does not go to waste either. They work to make sure that people will get the help they need. "The organization provides aid in nearly 60 countries to people whose survival is threatened by violence, neglect, or catastrophe, primarily due to armed conflict, epidemics, malnutrition, exclusion from health care, or natural disasters, for emergency medical assistance to help victims of the Haiti earthquake" ("Angelina Jolie"). The work she does is phenomenal, she is constantly giving lives what they need: hope. We all need a little hope sometimes, and Jolie helps distribute it to people who don't get it too often.

We all need some support sometimes. Someone to assure us that everything is going to be okay. Just someone to talk to us, to let us know that there is actually someone there in our life who cares about us. There are kids out there who are neglected. They don't have anything, and they just need someone. There are things that people go through that no one understands. Things that other people can't relate to, but either way they just need to have some kind of voice. Some kind of understanding. Angelina Jolie said, "When I met survivors of war and famine and rape, I learned what life is like for most people in this world,"

"I realized how sheltered I had been," she added, "and I was determined to never be that way again" (Milliken). Sometimes all they want is to know someone is there to talk to even if they can't see too clearly on the situations that occur. They need to know someone is out there trying to help, trying to make a difference. Perhaps all they need is to know that they do have a say in something. Angelina Jolie helps people with that. "In addition to her field missions for UNHCR, Jolie has made it her mission to give a voice to refugees and internally displaced people" ("Angelina Jolie Fact Sheet").

Angelina Jolie is someone I find I can call a role model. She shows that we can be something great even without the fame and fortune. She has done so many honorable things, from her field missions, to her charity & donations, and just her moral support for people. We can all learn a little something from her. She is not blinded by everything she has in life, she knows that there are people with less than her, people with nothing at all, and she works to make a change for that. Angelina Jolie has earned the title role model, and her good deeds will be forever praised.