Character Analysis

Directions:
1. Select ONE quotation from the list below.
2. Use this quotation as your evidence to answer the following major questions:
   a. What does this moment reveal about the personality of the character primarily described in this quotation? MUST USE QUOTES TO PROVE YOUR ARGUMENT HERE.
   b. What do his or her gestures, actions, words, reactions to others, or body language reveal about this character’s essential personality? MUST USE QUOTES TO PROVE YOUR ARGUMENT HERE.
   c. What is the setting or situation in which this moment occurs?
   d. What has happened immediately before this moment?
   e. What happens as a result of this moment?
   f. What does this moment have to do with any of Austen’s major motifs here, especially confidences, secrets, Romanticism vs. Rationalism, or communication?

REGULAR: ¾ page minimum typed
HONORS: Full page minimum typed

Quote 1

At last [Willoughby] turned round again, and regarded them both; [Marianne] started up, and pronouncing his name in a tone of affection, held out her hand to him. He approached, and addressing himself rather to Elinor than Marianne, as if wishing to avoid her eye, and determined not to observe her attitude, inquired in a hurried manner after Mrs. Dashwood, and asked how long they had been in town. Elinor was robbed of all presence of mind by such an address, and was unable to say a word. But the feelings of her sister were instantly expressed. Her face was crimsoned over, and she exclaimed in a voice of the greatest emotion, “Good God! Willoughby, what is the meaning of this? Have you not received my letters? Will you not shake hands with me?”

Quote 2

Elinor’s thoughts were full of what might be passing in Berkeley Street during their absence; but a moment’s glance at her sister when they returned was enough to inform her, that Willoughby had paid no visit there. A note was just then brought in, and laid on the table.
“For me?” cried Marianne, stepping hastily forward.
“No, ma’am, for my mistress.”
But Marianne, not convinced, took it instantly up.
“It is indeed for Mrs. Jennings; how provoking!”
“You are expecting a letter then?” said Elinor, unable to be longer silent.
“Yes, a little — not much.”
After a short pause, “You have no confidence in me, Marianne.”
“Nay, Elinor, this reproach from you! — you who have confidence in no one!”
“Me!” returned Elinor in some confusion; “indeed, Marianne, I have nothing to tell.”
“Nor I,” answered Marianne with energy, “our situations then are alike. We have neither of us anything to tell; you, because you communicate, and I, because I conceal nothing.”
Elinor, distressed by this charge of reserve in herself, which she was not at liberty to do away, knew not how, under such circumstances, to press for greater openness in Marianne.

Quote 3

“Perhaps, Miss Marianne,” cried Lucy, eager to take some revenge on her, “you think young men never stand upon engagements, if they have no mind to keep them, little as well as great.”