

Prompt #1 - Describe an example of your leadership experience in which you have positively influenced others, helped resolve disputes or contributed to group efforts over time.

We all have defining moments in our life when we are challenged to prove ourselves; however, only a handful of individuals seize these opportunities. This is what separates leaders from followers.

Last semester in my American Literature class, my group and I were required to perform an act of *The Crucible*. We were informed that the best performances would receive awards. I immediately took on the challenge of leading this performance and pursued the director role with the least amount of lines. Most of my team had extreme anxiety at the thought of memorizing lines and acting in front of the class. As the director and leader of my team, I told them not to worry and reassured them that we would be the best group. They thought I was crazy, however, I reminded them that with cooperation, dedication, and practice anything is possible.

Early on, my team faced many obstacles, including absences and members not giving their best effort. The main actor in the play was constantly absent so I took on his character and later ended up memorizing all his lines. A few of my teammates were not comfortable acting. I did my best to build their confidence and implored them to be brave. I continued to push my team to give their best effort during rehearsal because practice makes perfect and I was sure that it would result in a great performance. Slowly they began to buy in and believe. I taught them what it took to win and face their fears.

By the date of the performance, I took the initiative to be the main actor for the team. They recognized my passion for perfection. My work ethic is unmatched, and it was indisputable during and after the performances. When it came to nominating those for awards, every member of my team was nominated! The team award made me the proudest, we grew and flourished together. Everyone became the best version of themselves and my teacher credited me to be the only director he has ever known to memorize every line of the act. Anything is possible.