

A Clarification Composition

Opening Sentence

Interpretation of Quote

Supporting Example and Details

Supporting Example and Details

Conclusion

Erik Weihenmayer, a blind man who climbed Mount McKinley, said, *"Whatever your obstacles in life, you can get around them."*

To me, this statement addresses the fact that all of us have fears or circumstances that could hold us back in life and says that there is always a way to overcome them.

Erik Weihenmayer is a living example of this statement. Erik's "obstacle" is his physical disability of blindness. With the support of his friends and family, Erik succeeded in being the first blind man to climb Mt. McKinley, despite the perils of crevasses, snowstorms, and avalanches. If he had had less inner confidence, he might not even have attempted the climb. Erik's belief in himself and his eagerness to meet new challenges made it possible to get around his obstacle and conquer Mt. McKinley.

In *The Fear Place*, Doug Grillo also proves this statement to be true. Doug's "obstacle" was a paralyzing fear of heights. Unlike Erik, Doug did not have much confidence in his ability to climb past a steep, narrow portion of a trail along a rocky cliff. However, he did believe that it was up to him alone to find his brother, Gordie, even if it meant facing his worst fear. In the end, he was able to succeed by remembering his mother's words of wisdom and his father's stories of courage in a life-threatening situation. Doug also received unexpected encouragement from an animal friend, who showed him how to walk across the place he was most terrified of.

Doug Grillo and Erik Weihenmayer both show that it is possible to get around any obstacle in life in order to accomplish a goal.

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