

Writing

Here are your CHOICES!!!!

Option 1: Newspaper Headline Article

Write a newspaper article covering the news of Bethany's attack.

The key elements of a News Report are:

1. **Headline**

- Catches your attention
- Sums up the story

2. **Byline**

- Writer's name
- Date

3. **Placeline**

- Where the story begins (Kauai, Hawaii)

4. **Introduction**

- The opening section
- Gives most important information

5. **Body**

- Supplies detail
- Most important details come first
- Simple true statements
- Should answer most of the 5W's

6. **Conclusion**

- Sum it all up
- Possibly put in your own personal feelings.

Must have at least three quotes from the book. Quotes help provide validity and meaning and connectedness.

Option 2: Illustrated Thematic Connection Essay

- Choose a theme that is present in Soul Surfer
 - Example—Family, Friendship, bravery, perseverance, optimism
- Show and thoroughly discuss at least three examples of the theme of the text.

What is theme?

- Theme= a lesson the reader learns from the text; a universal truth; always written as a statement.

Ex: Life decisions can be hard.

Life has many roads

Regret can stifle a life.

Courage can be seen in unlikely people.

Thesis statement

- This is part of the introductory paragraph
 - A thesis statement clearly states the topic of a composition. It not only helps focus the main point of the essay by stating what you will PROVE in your paper, but it gives the reader an exact understanding of what will be covered.
 - *A thesis statement declares your OWN unique perspective, your “take”, on the subject.
- A literary thesis includes the **author's name** and **title of the work** along with what you are going to prove (thematic statement).
 - Literary thesis statement examples:
 - In *A Separate Peace*, **John Knowles** portrays jealousy as an element of friendship.
 - In the novel *A Separate Peace*, **John Knowles** illustrates how a person creates his or her own peace.
 - *A Separate Peace* by **John Knowles** illustrates the destructive results caused by distrust

Layout of a thematic essay

- Introduction (1 paragraph)
 - Include relevant background info. on setting, specific characters, plot summary, etc.
 - The last sentence of this paragraph should be your thesis statement.
- Body (3 paragraphs)
 - 3 supporting details
 - Be able to thoroughly discuss these details with examples from the text
- Conclusion
 - Conclusion (wrap up your essay by showing your theme in our society today & restate your thesis in a different way)

Example Intro. Paragraph for Thematic Analysis Essay

Empathy is a virtue that not all people have. To be able to understand other people's feelings, motives, or situations takes a lot of effort since we live in such a judgmental society. Anne Frank, who was a young Jewish girl, went into hiding for three years trying to escape being killed by the Nazis during World War II. Under dire circumstances, Anne showed empathy in her many diary entries. *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank shows that empathy can exist in horrific conditions. ******(thesis statement including my thematic statement)

Conclusion Example

As you can see, courage is a quality that is evident in many characters in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This quality is not just important in a famous novel written in the 1930s, but is seen everyday in our world today. The soldiers who have fought for our country through all the wars in history have shown a great amount of courage. They choose to put their life in danger for all Americans who are total strangers to them. Courage is within everybody, and it can appear at the most unlikely time.

Option 3: Compare and Contrast Essay

Write an essay comparing the internal and external conflict of Bethany to that of a main character of a self selected novel or short story that you have read.

Need at least two important similarities and two important differences.

Find on creative source outside of *Soul Surfer* that supports your theme.

What is a Compare and Contrast Essay?

Purpose—inform your audience (people who will read your paper) about the basic similarities and differences that you intend to discuss in your essay.

What needs to be included...

- Introduction
 - Who are the two characters and what books are they from.
 - Basic intro on the two characters and your belief about these characters.
 - **Thesis**—the idea that you are defending in your paper, your thoughts on the two characters. You must prove this with pieces of textual evidence taken from the work in question.
- Body (2 paragraphs)
 - Choice one: Each paragraph consist of 1 similarity and 1 difference
 - Choice two: One paragraph discusses both similarities, and the other paragraph discusses both differences.
- Conclusion
 - Bring it all together