

## Theme & Character — On Demand Writing

### *Dead Poets Society* & Carpe Diem

While *Dead Poets Society* certainly tells an enjoyable and inspirational story, it adroitly presents the rewards and caveats of carpe diem. Each of the story's central characters strives to gain a sense of the carpe diem spirit, but each does so with varying degrees of vigor and success.

While conveying your understanding of carpe diem, describe how each central character in *Dead Poets Society* attempts to seize the day. Be certain that your discussion also explores the consequences of living in the moment.

#### Key Considerations:

- 5 minutes of prewriting (Use the back of this page)
- 40 minutes of writing, proofreading, & editing
- Brief opening, organized & well-developed body paragraphs, brief closing
- Rather than a personal reflective essay, compose a formal analytical essay
- Do not summarize. Your reader already knows the story, so focus on presenting a unique perspective of how successfully the story communicates the theme through the characters.



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