

Example Essay

Medium Response to Literature

Prompt: Theme is typically expressed through characters in a novel, Lois Lowry in her novel, *The Giver*, focuses on themes revolving around ideas of utopia and difference. In a well-developed essay, discuss how Lowry develops her theme through the characters in her novel.

Some things that may seem good for a whole community, may not be good for one individual. People may think that one idea is perfect but when really isn't for one specific person. That one idea can have a big impact on one person even if you might not believe that. In the science fiction novel *The Giver* by Lois Lowry Jonas learned that his community isn't so perfect after all.

At the start of the story release seemed like a new community, or somewhere happy where you could live the rest of your life. "Release of a new child was always sad because they didn't have a chance to enjoy life within the community. And hadn't done anything wrong." (pg. 9). A little baby didn't get to experience life because of a way he was born. As we had thought an innocent baby had to be released because he wasn't born the way the community want it to be.

Later in the novel we had found out that the Receiver that had applied for released was a female and her name was Rosemary. "She left here that day, left this room and didn't go back to her dwelling. I was notified by the speaker that she had gone to the chief elder and asked to be released." (pg. 134). A girl who had a chance to have a wonderful life had asked to be released. A release was a shame for the community.

By the end of the book you realize that not everything or everyone is perfect. "...needle into the of the new child forehead, puncturing the place where the fragile skin pulsed ... He pushed the plunger very slowly injecting the liquid ... the new born no longer crying, moved his arm and legs..." (pg. 140-141). An innocent new born being killed for just coming into the world. Something in a community can make it seem perfect when it truly isn't. You can be over come by pain and power when u find out what something truly means.

One idea may seem perfect to you when truly that idea can be the total opposite for someone else. You get to understand that everything in life isn't as perfect as you may have expect it to be. One little thing can make a big effect to the whole world. People may think that everything is perfect when really to another group of people it isn't so perfect.

Commentary

This essay has a clear thesis and consistently uses textual evidence in an attempt to support its argument. All of the body paragraphs support the main idea which is also engaged in the conclusion. In order to receive a higher score on the rubric, this essay should connect all the evidence to the thesis. It has analysis but the analysis is not purposeful in proving the thesis. For example, in the first body paragraph, the author provides strong evidence that the world is not perfect. However, the connection from the evidence to the argument that the community is not perfect is not explicitly made and an essay reader who has not read the novel would not be able to make sense of the commentary. Similarly, the second paragraph uses good evidence but does not analyze the evidence in a way which advances the argument. The third body paragraph does a much better job connecting evidence to the argument. The paper does not tie all the evidence back to the thesis and the argument in each body paragraph should be used to develop and further the argument. The sentence fluency and word choice could also be elevated.