


The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Lesson of Life Research Essay

In Mark Twain's novel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, a young boy learns valuable lessons about life because of his experiences, especially his interaction with other characters, including Jim, Pap, The King and The Duke, Aunt Sally, The Widow Douglass, and Miss Watson. If he ever had children, what life lessons do you think he would teach them, having had these experiences from which to grow? What lessons would you teach your kids?




Persuasive Research Essay Prompt: Write an essay that has the purpose of teaching and/or persuading others to believe as you do about one life lesson. State this lesson clearly as the thesis of your introduction--use your own words, not a cliché you have heard. Use your life experiences as a source to prove your point of view. Support your thesis with research from books, interviews, movies, newspaper and magazine articles, etc. Look for expert opinions, statistics, and quotes to prove your point. And yes, even your parents, friends, and teachers might be considered experts about certain subjects.

Specific Instructions:

- ⇒ Follow MLA standards for research papers outlined on the commnet web site:
<http://www.ccc.comnet.edu/mla/index.shtml>
- ⇒ 12 point normal font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, 3-page minimum
- ⇒ Include a title, an introduction, body paragraphs, a conclusion, and a Works Cited page
- ⇒ Be sure to cite sources for quotes, statistics, and paraphrases
- ⇒ Incorporate **at least three sources** into the essay as proof of your thesis - one must be a novel you have read

Here are some examples of thesis statments:

- The best way to get and keep friends is to be more concerned with others than with yourself.
- It is important to have an established set of morals in life.
- The strongest indicator of one's success is the effort that he or she puts into life.
- Many of the problems we have in this country are the result of not using common sense.
- Forgiveness grants power and peace to the one who forgives.
- Do not worry about what others think of you. You can only control how you feel about yourself, not how they feel about you.
- Don't be a person who always joins the crowd. First, ask yourself where the crowd is headed.
- True humility comes not from pretending to be less than others, but from never failing to recognize how you can improve on what you are great at doing.

	<h1>Rubric</h1>
Introduction Hook, connector, and thesis statement	___/20
Body Answer the prompt completely; be creative	___/20
Incorporation of research Quotes, statistics, paraphrases of events; must include information from one novel	___/20
Works Cited Page 3 sources - follow MLA standards	___/10
Citations Cite author and page according to MLA standards	___/10
Conclusion Restate what was proved; end with final thought	___/10
Follows Directions	___/10
Content Total	___/100
Grammar Total	___/100
Grammar/Mechanics/Spelling	