**Essay #3: Connecting to *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind***

20% of your final grade

Literature comes alive when readers make connections to the story. As you read *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind,*  you may be thinking how different your life is from the characters and how you have nothing in common with the situations in the book. However, with more thought, you realize that many of the situations in the book are common to the human experience. For this essay, choose one of the themes in *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* that you connect to, explain its significance in the book and then make the connection to your own life.

**Possible themes to explore**

* Overcoming obstacles
* Making the best of a bad situation
* Finding your inner strength
* Coping with bullying
* Standing up for yourself
* Believing in yourself
* Challenging yourself to be the best you can be
* Adversity makes us strong
* The best education is learned from experience not school
* another theme of your choice

**Keep in mind**

Keep your audience in mind. Work on choosing a topic that they will find interesting.

 This is a comparison essay, not a narrative. The purpose is to show how your life experience is similar to a theme in the book.

**Requirements**

Your essay must be clearly organized, fully developed, and **at least 750 words.** Work hard to make sure you have included detailed explanation, description and examples to support each topic sentence.

**Introduction**

Use the introduction paragraph to provide some context for the essay. Make it clear that the essay will focus on both *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* and your own experiences. Your thesis should reflect the theme that you will be writing about and its presence in the book and your own life.

**Body Paragraphs**

Body paragraphs will reflect the theme you have chosen and explain its importance in *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* and in your own life. Probably the easiest way to organize is to present the *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* first and then in separate paragraphs your own experience. In order to show the relationship, use clear, powerful transitions.

**Body paragraphs**

Be sure that you include

* At least **3 body paragraphs**
* **A topic sentence in each body paragraph** that tells what the paragraph is about.
* **Specific examples** and details support and develop topic sentences.
* **clear organization** so that body paragraphs are written in a logical order with one main idea per paragraph.
* **Transitions** that tie paragraphs and sentences together

**Conclusion**

The **concluding paragraph** brings the essay to a satisfying close. One good technique is to wrap back to the introduction. Both your experience and the book should be highlighted in the conclusion.

**Other requirements**

* written in **clear, complete sentences**.
* **spell-checked**.
* **proofread.**
* **typed and double-spaced**.

**Due Dates**