

We are going to have an in class essay for our final assessment for our study of *Tuck Everlasting*. You will choose one of the following topics and then complete the following steps to prepare for your in-class essay.

- Prepare an outline for your essay
- Find relevant passages that support your points (I would mark them with post-its).

When you write the essay, you may have your book and outline with you. Your essay should be approximately 1 1/2 to 2 pages typed, double spaced, 12 point font.

- 1) Explain how the novel, *Tuck Everlasting*, uses the symbolism of clocks, wheels, and cycles to illustrate the theme of the necessity of mortality to humanity. Be sure to use ample support from the text.
- 2) Throughout the book there is a constant mention of the order of things, especially the order of life. Explain the ways Natalie Babbitt has set up the theme of Order vs. Disorder in the novel. Consider the lifestyles of both the Fosters and Tucks, in addition to the natural order of life.
- 3) Explain how *Tuck Everlasting* could be considered a modern day fairy tale. What elements of fairy tales does Natalie Babbitt weave into her novel? How do these elements enhance the meaning of the novel?
- 4) Explain how the novel, *Tuck Everlasting*, is a timeless allegorical coming-of-age story that showcases a young girl's innocence, conflicts, and choices. Look at how Winnie has changed throughout the novel and what major decisions she had to make in the story.
- 5) The frog appears throughout *Tuck Everlasting*. The frog is Winnie's first friend and then appears at the end of the story when Winnie lets it go. Consider the idea that frogs experience a metamorphosis or change in their lifespan. Why might Babbitt have selected the frog as a recurring presence in the story? What does the toad represent? Use examples from the story to support your answer.

Remember that your essay should have an interesting opening, a thesis statement, and lots of supporting details!