

Three Essays Rubric

Essay 1

In *A Long Walk to Water*, how does Salva's experience as a refugee shape his character? Cite textual evidence to support your analysis, quoting or paraphrasing as necessary.

In *A Long Walk to Water*, Salva's experience as a refugee shapes his character in significant ways. Throughout the book, Salva is constantly faced with challenges and obstacles that test his resilience and determination. Despite these challenges, Salva learns to be self-reliant, adaptable, and empathetic to those around him. For example, when Salva's uncle dies, he is forced to take charge of the group of refugees and lead them to safety. Salva is also shown to be a compassionate individual, as he helps others who are struggling on the journey. Salva's experiences as a refugee teach him the importance of water, as it is a basic necessity that is often scarce and hard to come by.

The theme of water is developed throughout the book, as Salva and the other characters are constantly searching for water sources. The scarcity of water creates tension and fear among the refugees, as they are forced to risk their lives to find water. The theme of water also has a significant impact on the characters, as it forces them to work together and rely on each other for survival. Salva's experiences with water also shape his character, as he becomes more resourceful and learns to appreciate the value of water. For example, Salva digs a hole to collect rainwater, showing his ability to adapt to his surroundings and think creatively.

Overall, Salva's experiences as a refugee shape his character in significant ways. Through his determination, resilience, and empathy towards others, Salva learns to overcome the challenges he faces. The theme of water also plays a vital role in the book, highlighting the importance of basic necessities and the impact they have on individuals and communities. The author uses textual evidence to support these analyses, such as Salva's actions and thoughts throughout the book.

In conclusion, *A Long Walk to Water* explores the theme of water and its impact on individuals and communities. Salva's experiences as a refugee shape his character and teach him important lessons about self-reliance, compassion, and the value of basic necessities. The author uses textual evidence to support these analyses, making a compelling argument about the book's central themes.

Essay 2

One of the themes in *A Long Walk to Water* is the importance of water. How does this theme develop throughout the book, and what impact does it have on the characters? Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support your analysis, quoting or paraphrasing as appropriate.

Water is one of the most important resources on our planet, and this theme is explored in *A Long Walk to Water*. The book shows how water is necessary for survival, and it has a significant impact on the characters. The story is set in Sudan, where there is a severe shortage of clean water, and the characters are forced to walk for miles to find it.

Throughout the book, we see how water scarcity affects people's lives. For example, when Salva's village is attacked, he is forced to flee and walk for days without water. He becomes dehydrated and weak, and he almost dies. However, he is fortunate enough to come across a group of people who have found water and are willing to share it with him. This moment highlights the importance of community and sharing, as water is a resource that everyone needs to survive.

Similarly, when Nya's family moves to a new village, they have to walk for hours to reach the nearest water source. Nya's daily routine consists of walking to the pond, filling her container with water, and carrying it back to her family. This routine takes up most of her day, leaving little time for anything else. This demonstrates how water scarcity can be a significant obstacle to daily life and how it can affect people's opportunities.

Furthermore, when Salva is taken to a refugee camp, he discovers that clean water is scarce, and people are getting sick from drinking contaminated water. This shows how access to clean water is not only important for survival but also for staying healthy. In this context, we can see how water scarcity can lead to disease and other health problems.

In conclusion, *A Long Walk to Water* emphasizes the importance of water and how it affects the characters. The book demonstrates how water scarcity can be a significant obstacle to daily life, limiting people's opportunities, and leading to health problems. Through the characters' experiences, we see the importance of community and sharing, as water is a resource that everyone needs to survive.

Essay 3

Nya and Salva both face significant challenges in A Long Walk to Water. How do their experiences differ, and what can we learn from their struggles? Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support your analysis, quoting or paraphrasing as appropriate.

In A Long Walk to Water, Nya and Salva both face difficulties, but their experiences are different. Nya is a girl who lives in a village in Sudan where water is hard to find. She has to walk to a dirty pond for water every day, which takes up most of her time. When her brother gets sick from drinking the dirty water, she has to take care of him. This shows how water can make life tough. Salva is a boy who becomes a refugee when his village is attacked. He has to walk without water for days and almost dies, but he's lucky enough to find water shared by others. Salva shows how determination can help people overcome challenges.

Nya and Salva's experiences in the book demonstrate the importance of water and how it affects people differently. Nya's experiences show how water scarcity can limit opportunities and affect daily life. Salva's experiences demonstrate how determination and perseverance can help people overcome difficult situations. Both characters show resilience in the face of adversity and the importance of sharing resources. As Salva says, "when we help each other, we can do great things."

While the essay has some organization and focus, the details are limited and not well supported. The language is basic and the vocabulary is limited. The sentence structure and grammar are not varied or complex, and there are some errors in grammar and mechanics that interfere with understanding. Overall, the essay shows some understanding of the book but lacks depth and sophistication.