

In a collective society, all try to accomplish equality, yet a person's inevitable desire for knowledge can separate them from the group, enabling them to discover and sometimes invent a whole new point of view. For example, Christopher Columbus was a chivalrous explorer that defied the opinions of the world and set off on a journey that would change everything. This was all due to his curiosity in the geography of the planet. All other people believed that the world was flat, and that if you sailed far enough you'd fall off the edge of the earth; however, Columbus pursued his own ambitions to discover the unknown, eventually finding the gargantuan continent of North America. While Christopher Columbus started out like any other person, his investigative nature led him to take the risk of the journey and reveal the New World, even when those around him opposed his ideas. The same desire for knowledge Columbus had also exists in the characters of the books *Lord of the Flies*, *Anthem* and *Harrison Bergeron*, shown not by only their inner thoughts, but also by their actions to make their concepts into reality. Equality cannot be achieved when the curiosity of human nature still exists.

#2

To Lead Oneself or be Led by Others

When it comes right down to it, the First Amendment is the sole foundation that preserves and protects the independence of American citizens. Without this legal right, Americans couldn't express themselves without being reprimanded, and everyone would have to live in a constant state of conformity. Then again, the simple act of stating one's mind isn't enough to stay true to oneself; for when people willingly place their trust in the supposed competence of those such as the media, politicians, and celebrities, they lose any trace of ambition to seek out the truth and form a first-hand opinion to call their own. The characters in *Lord of the Flies*, *Anthem*, and "The Pedestrian" go through similar struggles where they must disregard society's principles in order to discover who they are. For when individuals rely on others for fulfillment, feelings of dissatisfaction with life will inevitably arise and lead one to personal ruin.

#3

A Covetous Mind, Reckless Actions

The Greek Playwright, Aeschylus, once quoted, "It is in the character of very few men to honor without envy a friend who has prospered." Aeschylus's perceptive vocalization is all too true in today's society, which is teeming full of envious individuals. Some learn to cope with their brooding emotions of jealousy, but those who do not, open the doors to a life of fraudulence and aggravation. Watching others flourish occasionally prompts a rebellious soul to assault out of bitterness. He or she neither recognizes the significance of motivational competition in life, nor the corollaries of their indignant and sadistic resentment. In some cases, the individual is so caught up in their hatred, that it is impossible to trace back to the origin of it. A variety of literature illustrates the struggles that many must endure while either succumbing to jealous behaviors, or being victimized by envious adversaries. The characters of Lord of the Flies, "Most Dangerous Game", and "Harrison Bergeron" undergo similar complications, which result from the futile attempts to conceal the comprehensions of failure and jealousy; the spiteful persons are falsely reassured and elated for a short time after demeaning the accomplished others, but soon collapse again into their own torment.

Great word choice.

Great Thesis!

Synthesis Essay

#4

"There is no security on this earth, there is only opportunity."-General Douglas Macarthur. Security does not exist in the world, but rather it is created when needed and then is stumbled upon. Alice in wonderland was going through her lessons daydreaming about the multitudes of ways in which she could be better spending her time. Alice pursues an overdue rabbit, and thus she stumbles upon her own magical and carefree fantasyland. Alice's bliss is short-lived, for she soon finds herself wishing for a route out of her loneliness; Alice's feeling of safety disappears, and then she makes the most incredible journey of her childhood. Likewise, in works of literature such as *The Lord of the Flies*, *Anthem*, and "The Most Dangerous Game", the lessons one can learn from the actions of the characters apply directly to life. Throughout the text of these works, it is apparent that one's sanctuary is only temporary, and when that place is no longer a safe-haven, drastic changes occur in one's life.