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AP Literature

Self Reflection

Self Reflection of Crime and Punishment

Choosing the person I wanted to analyze for the Crime and Punishment Essay wasn't difficult at all for me. I felt as if I had a connection to Sonya through family sacrifice and empathized for her with all the struggles that she had to face. I was able to formulate several ideas because I found myself relating to her in several instances throughout the novel. It was enjoyable to me to write about a theme that I had a lot of ideas. My analysis on sacrifice was thoroughly thought out because I did think about this subject in depth, and it seemed to be the strong parts of my essay.

The analysis on Sonya and sacrifice is the strong points of my essay. However, not being able to have the actual novel in front of me to reference back to was a setback. By not having the book with me, my essay lacked more specific scenes that I couldn't reference back to. I did the best that I could with what I had by using an online source, but it didn't seem as if I got everything down that I wanted to. I did try to focus on the main points, but I knew I could've referenced more specific scenes if I had the book next to me when I was writing the essay.

Overall, I felt as if this was a successful essay. I thoroughly analyzed Sonya and the theme sacrifice. I learned that it was a lot easier for me to meet the 4-5 page requirement because of the connection that I felt I had with Sonya. It wasn't a bunch of words that I came up with because I had to. By relating to this character, I learned that I could analyze her better and fully

understand why she did everything that she had done for the sake of her family. I didn't see her as the poor girl that had to sell her body for her family, but a noble hero to be admired.

On my next paper, I hope that I can utilize my knowledge of vocabulary into my writing. There are a lot of great vocabulary words that I've learned, but I hesitate on applying them because I don't want to use the word incorrectly in a sentence. I would also like to be able to formulate ideas quicker and more efficiently. There's a lot of time wasted on just trying to come up with what to write about and I hope to focus less time on that and more time on actually writing the paper.