

Fourth Quarter Reflective Essay

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity [disbelief], it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct [to hell]..."

opening paragraph of *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens

This year we have studied ancient civilizations, belief systems, legends, great eras in History and Literature, trends, inventions, discoveries, historical people, revolutions, war and our society today. We have compared stories to each other and to our own lives and have explored changes in society and literature over time.

And now it is time to decide on and discuss the very Best and Worst of this year.

This is a Reflection Essay, so it is purely your opinion: your thoughts and feelings about whatever topic you select to discuss.

Topics for this essay can come from the literature and from history: any story, poem, epic, person, event, discovery, invention or trend. This includes the Character lessons in Interact and the Quotes of the Day. Pick something that has really made an impact on you and write an explanation of how and why that story, incident, topic is the ONE thing that you think you will always remember about the class.

You could also decide to discuss the phenomenon of the PBL. You can discuss why you love them as a way of learning or why you despise them and wish they would be banished forever. You will have to include details supporting your opinion.

These are still essays and must follow the 3 paragraph format: Introduction, Body and Conclusion. This means that you will have to do more than say, "Yeah, I hate PBLs."