



Date Assigned: 8-20-21 Final

Due: 8-20-21

Directions: Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and the assignment below.

Most people underestimate their own abilities. They tend to remember their failures more vividly than their successes, and for this reason they have unrealistically low expectations about what they are capable of. Those individuals who distinguish themselves through great accomplishments are usually no more talented than the average person: they simply set higher standards for themselves, since they have higher expectations about what they can do.

Assignment:

Do highly accomplished people achieve more than others mainly because they expect more of themselves? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.

Sample Outline:

- I. Intro.
Generalization/lead-in related to thesis idea
*****THESIS***** (*remember, must be a debatable claim*)
This paragraph does not have to be long. Can be a sentence or two if you are pressed for time. Make sure you answer the prompt.
- II. Example #1 – your strongest example
 - Provide an example from history, literature, current events, personal experience, etc, to support your thesis. This paragraph will explain how your example supports your thesis. In other words, connect your example to your thesis.
- III. Example #2 – second best example
 - Provide an example from history, literature, current events, personal experience, etc, to support your thesis. This paragraph will explain how your example supports your thesis. In other words, connect your example to your thesis.
- IV. Example #3 – weakest example
 - Provide an example from history, literature, current events, personal experience, etc, to support your thesis. This paragraph will explain how your example supports your thesis. In other words, connect your example to your thesis
- V. Conclusion

Restatement of thesis: Reiterate your thesis using different words/summarize your main points. Expansion/generalization of your ideas. This paragraph also does not have to be long. Can be a sentence or two if you are pressed for time.

*you may also consider going from your weakest to your strongest example if you think this strategy may create a more effective impact on your reader.