**SAT-Style Essay: Attitude**

The essay will measure your ability to:

* develop a point of view on an issue presented in an excerpt
* use reasoning and evidence based on reading, studies, experience, and observations to support that point of view
* follow the conventions of standard written English

**Directions (based on SAT/College Board)** Writing this essay gives you an opportunity to show how effectively you can develop and express ideas. You should, therefore, take care to develop your point of view, present your ideas logically and clearly, and use language precisely. You have forty-five minutes to write an essay on one of the topics below. DO NOT WRITE ON ANOTHER TOPIC. AN OFF-TOPIC ESSAY WILL RECEIVE A SCORE OF ZERO.

## TOPIC ONE

“Things turn out the best for those who make the best out of the way things turn out.”

–John Wooden

Is one’s attitude in the face of hardship significant, or do some hardships make us helpless? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position by providing reasons and examples from *The* *Secret Life of Bees, Outsiders,* other readings, studies, your observations, and/or your own experience.

## TOPIC TWO

“Anger makes you smaller, while forgiveness forces you to grow beyond what you were.” – Cherie Carter-Scott, PhD

Is it necessary to move beyond anger to forgiveness? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position by providing reasons and examples from: *The* *Secret Life of Bees, Outsiders,* other readings, studies, your observations, and/or your own experience.

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**OUTLINE**

**Introduction**

**Hook**

**Introduce the dilemma**

**Claim**

**Body 1 What will you argue?**

**Body 2 What will you argue?**

**Body 3 What will you argue?**

**Conclusion**

**Why does this topic matter in the real world?**

**Prove: Slow and steady wins the race.**

**1) Tortoise goes slow, doesn’t quit,**

**2) and wins.**

**3) Hare goes fast but gets too cocky**

**4) and loses.**

**If you lie, ppl won’t believe you even when you tell the truth.**

**1) the people are supportive**

**2) he lies**

**3) lies a lot**

**4) people abandon him**

**Topic 1**

**Claim: ONE’S ATTITUDE IN THE FACE OF HARDSHIP IS SIGNIFICANT.**

**Claim: ATTITUDE DOESN’T ALWAYS MATTER; SOME HARDSHIPS ARE TOO POWERFUL.**

**Topic 2**

**Claim: ANGER MAKES YOU SMALLER; FORGIVENESS HELPS YOU GROW.**

**Claim: ANGER CAN BE CONSTRUCTIVE AND HEALTHY; FORGIVENESS ISN’T ALWAYS**

**NECESSARY**