**HOLES BY LOUIS SACHER**

**ESSAY TOPICS**

**You must pick ONE of the following topics and provide a written response. There is no limit to the length of your response, however they should be *around* 10 sentences. I’m more concerned with how well you answer the question than length. Use evidence from the book to support your answer!**

1. Why was the book called Holes? What was the hole in Stanley’s life when he first went to Camp Green Lake? How was it filled in?

2. Discuss the significance of the nicknames of the boys at Camp Green Lake.

3. Explain the importance of onions, peaches, May Lou.

4. What does X-Ray’s real name, Rex, mean? Why was he the leader of the group?

5. How did Stanley’s personality change since arriving at Camp Green Lake? Has his character improved or deteriorated?

6. Compare and contrast the three versions of the song that appears throughout the book.

7. Compare and contrast the characters Stanley and Zero. Use physical and personality traits in your descriptions.

8. Give examples of Stanley’s conflicts with people, nature, and himself.

9. Find an example of sarcasm, irony, and simile in the [novel](http://www.pinkmonkey.com/booknotes/monkeynotes/pmHoles25.asp). Explain the meaning of each.

10. Describe the similarities between Madame Zeroni and Zero, and Stanley and Elya.

11. *Holes* covers three distinct periods of time. How do times change, what things stay the same throughout different decades?

12. How are Stanley and Zero influenced by fate? In what ways do Stanley and Zero act that shapes their own destiny?

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