

Challenged Book Essay - Scoring Rubric

Name: _____

Date: _____

Book _____

Author _____

Published: _____

The purpose of your essay against banning a Challenged Book is to: _____

- Demonstrate "information competency" by evaluating the logic, relevance and validity of information. You will research:
 - a. book challenges in general,
 - b. why your book has been challenged, and
 - c. what biases were evident in your research.
- Develop and support an argument: Communicate your opinion in a two page persuasive essay that answers the questions: How can the school board support the First Amendment, and how should it respond to efforts to ban this book?
- Properly cite all reference materials (in-text citations for quotes and alphabetical list of references on an MLA formatted work cited page).

Your Challenged Book Essay is worth 50 total points. Projects that earn the highest value for each criterion will reflect thorough research with proper citations, a cohesive argument with support, and college-level writing skills.

| Criterion | Available Points | Your Points | Comments |
|---|------------------|-------------|--|
| 2 page, double-spaced, word processed essay with 12 pt font + works cited page | 2 | 0 | major errors |
| MLA citation for quotes & 4+ references (must have a quote & works cited page) | 6 | 3 | no quotes or citations given |
| Freedom from errors. Proofread! | 4 | 4 | Good! |
| Summary of research: when and where was the book challenged; results; evaluation of arguments (pros & cons) | 10 | 2 | Some argument given to ban but no research no own argument |
| Statement of your main points against banning the book (lessons, free speech) | 10 | 0 | argued the wrong side |
| Mitigating measures: Policies the school can use to help students handle the issues without banning the book. | 10 | 0 | None given |
| Your conclusion or claim (thesis) against banning. | 8 | 0 | wrongy conclusion |
| Total | 50 | 9 | |

Review met

late

ACDV B50
Book Essay

The book *Fallen Angels*, by Walter Dean Myers, was banned in 2002 for offensive language, racism, violence, and not suitable for its age group. I agree that this book be banned in junior high school libraries because of its content. It is more for the mature audience and should not be read by children at their age. Thesis?

Many other books with similar content as to this one have been banned or challenged in school libraries as well. It is good that parents are realizing what their children are actually reading and going out to do something about it because they do not like the material their son or daughter is going over and learning about when they are still very young. If you let them learn all the actions being portrayed in the book, kids might try imitating them at a very young age. So having books with content such as sex, racism, and violence be banned from these school libraries is a wonderful idea in my opinion.

Against assignment

The reason why this book has been banned was because of its offensive language, racism, violence, and the content contained within the book is not suitable for children. For example, the story takes place during the Vietnam War, and it

~~speaks about killing throughout the story, which is clearly something you do not want your child to be learning about especially at their age. Along with all the violence being brought up within the story, they also talk about their sexual activities and encounters, and there is a heavy sense of racism. I can see why parents would want to ban this book from school libraries, which was successful in the year of 2002.~~

Research

Although this book is not suitable for the younger audience, it is a bit unfair — why?
that the children do not even have a say as to if they want to read the story or not.
They should have a choice to determine whether or not they can handle the subject
matter being portrayed throughout the story, because either way they are going to
learn about these situations in the future soon or a later, but that is just my opinion.
I am not siding with the children, ^{CS} I was just trying to put myself into a child's
perspective and show that it ^{is} seen unfair to them that they have no say in what
they can or cannot read.

There are many other books that have been banned or challenged in school
libraries due to their content just like this book. These books have been banned
because parents went out and got these books banned along with the school board
for the simple fact that they did not want their children learning about mature
situations at a very young age. They do not want to see their sons or daughters going
out and performing activities such as the ones portrayed in the story early on in
their life. I agree with the parents one hundred percent that books deemed
unsuitable for children at a junior high grade level and below should be banned
from their school libraries.

Your writing and grammar are good.
However, this does not meet the
guidelines for the assignment.

Works Cited

for big
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N.p., n.d. Web. 31 Oct. 2013.

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America's Libraries*. American Library Association, n.d. Web. 31
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Foundation for Free Expression." *Banned Books Week Handbook:
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↑ also need to
list novel.

Hanging
indent
Alphabetize