**Anthem Essay Topics**

Requirements:

1. MUST be TYPED: Times New Roman size 12, Double Spaced
2. Length—between 600 and 1200 words. (I will show you how to find this on a Microsoft word document)
3. Must use evidence from the text to prove your point, but also includes your own opinions and analysis.
4. Due: Friday, March 18th

AYN RAND INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY TOPICS FOR 10TH GRADERS

* “It is a sin to write this.” So begins *Anthem*. But by the end of the story, Equality 7-2521 has a different moral assessment of his action. Do you think Equality’s eventual assessment of his sin is correct? Why or why not? Explain.
  + For this topic, you must consider 1) what is his new assessment of his action (does he still think it is a sin to write this)? 2) Is he correct in his new view? Why or why not?
* By the end of the story, Equality 7-2521 has changed his mind and become very critical of the leaders of his society, denouncing them in moral terms. Do you think he is correct to do so? Why or why not? Do you think he would agree with the advice that Rand offers in her short essay “How Does One Lead a Rational Life in an Irrational Society?”? Explain. \*
  + Be careful: this essay asks you to do two things. Make sure you cover both ideas in your thesis and in the body of your essay.
* *Anthem* portrays a totalitarian world of the future. In contrast to other such portrayals, the world of *Anthem* is technologically primitive**.** What does this imply about the nature of science and technology and the conditions for technological progress, and how do events of the story establish that view?
  + For this topic, you must work backwards. BECAUSE there is NO technology or progress, there must be something (or things) in their society that stop progress. Alternatively, what are they missing that would allow technology to progress, if they had it in their society?

Essays turned in to the contest must be submitted by March 25, 2016. They can be submitted through the website: <https://www.aynrand.org/students/essay-contests#submit> or mailed in. If you want to do either of these options, I will discuss with you how to do so.

1ST PLACE

$2,000

1 Winner

2ND PLACE

$500

5 Winners

3RD PLACE

$200

10 Winners

FINALISTS

$50

45 Winners

SEMI-FINALISTS

$30

175 Winners

**Final draft due: Friday, October 9**