Rudy

**“Without struggle there is no success.”** Daniel E. “Rudy” Ruettiger

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How **Far** Would **You** Go to **Reach** **Your Dream**?

All his life, people have told Rudy he’s not good enough, not smart enough, and not big enough. But nothing can stop his **impossible dream** of playing football for Notre Dame. From the time he’s a young boy, Rudy (Sean Astin) is determined to join the Fighting Irish. But his blue-collar family only laughs at his ambitions-they know Rudy will follow his father and brothers to the local steel mill. And, for four long years after high school, he does just that. But some dreams won’t die, as Rudy proves when he goes to heroic, occasionally hilarious, lengths to win admission to Notre Dame. Once there, he becomes a walk-on player, serving as little more than a human tackling dummy against the starting players. Bloodied but unbeaten, Rudy wins the respect of legendary coach Ara Parseghian and the other Irish players, who give him one shot at gridiron glory. An incredible, true story, RUDY is an unforgettable testament to the power of dreams and the triumph of the common man. (adapted from the back cover of the movie case)

**RUDY- Two Thumbs Up!! MCj04280650000[1]**

**Characters**: Please give a one sentence description of each character.

* [Sean Astin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sean_Astin) as Daniel E. “Rudy” Ruettiger-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* [Ned Beatty](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ned_Beatty) as Daniel Ruettiger-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Scott Benjaminson as Frank Ruettiger-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* [Lili Taylor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lili_Taylor) as Sherry-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Christopher Reed as Pete-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* [Robert Prosky](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Prosky) as Father Cavanaugh-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Jon Favrreau as D-Bob -\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Charles S. Dutton as Fortune-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Mitch Rouse as Jim-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Vince Vaughn as Jamie O’Hara-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:**

While you are watching Rudy, you will be required to give examples from the movie when Rudy demonstrates the following: **character**, **courage**, **contribution**, and **commitment**. You will become a witness to Rudy’s struggles, disappointments, heartaches, and determination as he tackles his biggest *personal challenge*…living his dream of playing football for Notre Dame!

**“Most people allow struggles and fear of failure to stop them. The key is to learn from your struggles and move on.” ~Rudy**

MCj03354420000[1]**Character**- a person of character makes the choice to do the right thing.

**Examples from the movie:**



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MCj03354420000[1]

**Courage**- a person of courage is humble yet shows the strength, fortitude, and discipline to stand by their convictions especially when under pressure to compromise their values.

**Examples from the movie:**



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MCj03354420000[1]**Contribution**- giving back. Using your talents in a positive manner to make a difference (no matter how big or small) for a particular purpose, which ultimately is of benefit to the whole.

**Examples from the movie:**



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MCj03354420000[1]

**Commitment**- making the decision to follow through on a dream, goal, idea, or mission regardless of the challenges and obstacles.

**Examples from the movie:**



2.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**“Preparation is what comes from struggle. Knowledge comes from preparation.**

**These are the elements that pave the road to your dream.” ~Rudy**

Guidelines for Writing the Essay with the 4C’s and Strategies

**Introductory ¶**

**It Starts with a Dream!!** The greater the struggle, the greater the victory. "Most people allow struggles and fear of failure to stop them. The key is to learn from your struggles and move on. Failures will make you stronger and give you the information you need to reach your Dream. Struggle will prepare you for success. Without struggle there is no success." ~Rudy

**4 C’s Introductory ¶**

MCj03354420000[1]**Completing Your Essay:**

Using the packet you completed on the movie Rudy, you will construct a well explained and detailed essay. You will incorporate Rudy’s **character**, **courage**, **contribution**, and **commitment** in your essay. You will take the above quote and apply it to your essay. How does Rudy accomplish his dream? Give examples of how Rudy does not allow his struggles and fear to get in the way of his dream. How does he learn from each struggle and move on to tackle the next one on his path to living his dream? What is his dream? How does he accomplish it? How do his failures make him stronger? How does the information from his struggles help him in his journey?

**BAM**

**CEI**

You will construct a well written **thesis statement** and **well developed paragraphs** in your essay. We will be going over how to write a thesis statement and a format to use in regards to writing a solid paragraph.

This essay will be worth **100 points**. We will be working on it in class for the next week or so. Let’s see what fabulous writers we have in this class!! ☺

MCj04400210000[1]

MCj04135960000[1]Tips and Examples for Writing Thesis Statements

### Tips for Writing Your Thesis Statement

1.) **Determine what kind of paper you are writing:**

* An **analytical** paper breaks down an issue or an idea into its component parts, evaluates the issue or idea, and presents this breakdown and evaluation to the audience.
* An **expository** (explanatory) paper explains something to the audience.
* An **argumentative** paper makes a claim about a topic and justifies this claim with specific evidence. The claim could be an opinion, a policy proposal, an evaluation, a cause-and-effect statement, or an interpretation. The goal of the argumentative paper is to convince the audience that the claim is true based on the evidence provided.

If you are writing a text which does not fall under these three categories (ex. a narrative), a thesis statement somewhere in the first paragraph could still be helpful to your reader.

2.) Your **thesis statement should be specific**—it should cover only what you will discuss in your paper and should be supported with specific evidence.

3.) **The thesis statement usually appears at the end of the first paragraph of a paper.**

4.) Your topic may change as you write, so you **may need to revise your thesis statement** to reflect exactly what you have discussed in the paper.

### Thesis Statement Examples

* Example of an **analytical thesis statement**:

MCj04136380000[1]An analysis of the college admission process reveals one challenge facing counselors: accepting students with high test scores or students with strong extracurricular backgrounds.

**The paper that follows should:**

* + - explain the analysis of the college admission process
    - explain the challenge facing admissions counselors
* Example of an **expository (explanatory) thesis statement**:

The life of the typical college student is characterized by time spent studying, attending class, and socializing with peers.

**The paper that follows should:**

* + - explain how students spend their time studying, attending class, and socializing with peers
* Example of an **argumentative thesis statement**:

High school graduates should be required to take a year off to pursue community service projects before entering college in order to increase their maturity and global awareness.

**The paper that follows should:**

* present an argument and give evidence to support the claim that students should pursue community projects before entering college

**Creating a Paragraph: CEI (Claim, Evidence, Interpretation )**

### Claim

What are you going to prove in this paragraph? What are you going to tell the reader about your point and/or task?

### Evidence

Use examples, text quotes, etc. to support what your claim is. Two pieces of evidence per paragraph is usually sufficient. Make sure your evidence supports your claim.

**Interpretation**

Further explanation of the claim and overarching theme, central idea, controlling idea, and/or thesis and how this relates to the world, other literature, experiences, etc. This is not found in the text- you have to take the information that you have and develop a statement based off of what you know and what you have presented in your paragraph already.

**Kick your introduction up a notch!**

**BAM**

**B**: Bold opening statement **(quote)**

**A**: Apply/Add background knowledge, **T**itle, **A**uthor, and **G**enre **(4C’s)**

**M**: Make a strong thesis statement (specific)

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Body ¶ 1 Character

**Claim:** What will you **prove** in your essay…?

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**Evidence:** Examples, quotes, textual references that support the **claim**…

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**Interpretation:** An explanation and/or analysis of the **evidence**…

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Body ¶ 2 Courage

**Claim:** What will you **prove** in your essay…?

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**Evidence:** Examples, quotes, textual references that support the **claim**…

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**Interpretation:** An explanation and/or analysis of the **evidence**…

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Body ¶ 3  Contribution

**Claim:** What will you **prove** in your essay…?

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**Evidence:** Examples, quotes, textual references that support the **claim**…

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Interpretation: An explanation and/or analysis of the **evidence**…

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Body ¶ 4 Commitment

**Claim:** What will you **prove** in your essay…?

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**Evidence:** Examples, quotes, textual references that support the **claim**…

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**Interpretation:** An explanation and/or analysis of the **evidence**…

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Where are the *Thesis Statements* and *CEI*?

**Directions:**

As we review each of the *introductions* and *body paragraphs* below, please highlight (in different colors) the **thesis statement**, **claim** (top layer), **evidence** (meat and veggies), and **interpretation** (bottom layer). This activity will help you to identity the above and therefore help you to write a paragraph of your own using CEI. Below are examples of well-written paragraphs with a thesis and the use of CEI.

**Example 1:**

**Introduction:**

In the movie Rudy, the main character, Daniel E. Ruettiger (aka Rudy) makes the following statement; “Most people allow struggles and fear of failure to stop them. The key is to learn from your struggles and move on. Failures will make you stronger and give you the information you need to reach your dream. Struggle will prepare you for success. Without struggle there is no success.” Rudy proved this point throughout his journey with his courage, character, commitment and contribution. Rudy faced failure and many setbacks while trying to achieve his dream of playing football for the Fighting Irish. However, every time he was pushed down, Rudy got back up and tried even harder the next time.

**Body Paragraph (CEI):**

While trying to become a player on the Fighting Irish football team, Rudy shows a tremendous amount of courage. One example is when Rudy first attends Holy Cross College. Rudy used all of the money from his savings for tuition; therefore he was unable to pay for room and board but that did not stop him from coming one step closer to achieving his dream. Eventually when Rudy does become a football player for Notre Dame a few players on the team, Jim and Jamie become angry with Rudy because his constant need to work hard and impress his coaches makes them look bad. They tell him to stop trying so hard, but Rudy keeps giving it his all. By attempting to achieve his dream but with no support, Rudy makes it through the fear of failing or having no place to stay. When Rudy opposes his teammates who could easily physically harm him, he overcomes his fear of not being accepted and doing what is best for him. Overcoming fear is the definition of courage, and Rudy definitely demonstrated that.

**Example 2**

**Introduction:**

“The greater the struggle, the greater the victory. Most people allow struggles and fear of failure to stop them. The key is to learn from your struggles and move on. Failures will make you stronger and give you the information you need to reach your dream. Struggle will prepare you for success. Without struggle there is no success.” Daniel E. Ruettiger (aka Rudy) stated this inspirational quote after realizing overcoming struggle is important in succeeding. Rudy realized to achieve a dream you need courage, commitment, character, and to contribute in order to persevere through personal challenges. In the film Rudy, Rudy displayed strength while facing challenges in his life that were in the way of his goal of playing for the Notre Dame football team a real possibility. Rudy continued to try his best when things seemed hopeless, therefore staying true to his values and using his talents to make a difference.

**Paragraph (CEI):**

Rudy’s character demonstrates his morals and values which assist him in attempting to make his dream a reality. He accepted the consequences that came along with following his dream. Rudy valued his family even though they were not supportive when it came to him following his dream and Rudy swallowed his pride and accepted help to improve his grades from D-Bob. Rudy’s dad wanted him to follow in his footsteps and be a steel worker at the mill he worked at and his brother Frank was jealous of Rudy because he decided to chase his dream instead of doing what his father wanted him to do…like Frank did. Rudy took pride in his accomplishment of being on the Notre Dame Football team and he wanted his family to trust that he was in fact playing for Notre Dame even though he never dressed. Rudy’s character helped him to be strong enough to deal with the criticism from his family (the ones who should have supported him the most) and to be strong enough to ask for help in order to fulfill his dream when so many told him it was stupid and impossible.

**Notes:**

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MCj03354420000[1]**Rudy Essay Rubric**  **Turn-In Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1.) The **introduction contains BAM** (bold opening statement, add on (TAG), and make a thesis statement), **the quote from Rudy** and the **4c’s**.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

2.) The **thesis statement** is **well supported** with examples from the movie.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

3.) The paper contains a **variety of examples** from the movie that **supports** the **thesis statement** and the **4c’s**.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

4.) The paper is **cohesive**, **well organized**, and makes **logical sense** when I read it.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

5.) The four **body paragraphs** use the paragraph format of **CEI** (claim, evidence, and interpretation).

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

6.) Each **body paragraph discusses** one of the **4c’s** (character, courage, contribution or commitment).

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

7.) The **conclusion restates** what was stated in the **introduction** with a **confident voice**. It brings the paper **full circle**.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

8.) The gold **“Rudy” packet is completed**.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

9.) The paper is **well proof read** and relatively free of errors.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

10.) The paper is a distinct product of its author with **a good sense of voice, and no hints of plagiarism.**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

MCj04280650000[1]

**Made for you by Mrs. Fisken**

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