

# Exceptional Essays

Exceptional essays can take many different forms. Do you want to inform someone? Write an expository essay. Would you rather entertain someone? Write a descriptive or a narrative essay. Or maybe you feel strongly about a certain issue. If so, write a persuasive essay.

## This Movie Is Full of Holes

Sometimes, readers can be disappointed when their favorite book is made into a movie. The actors in the movie may not look anything like the characters you pictured as you read the book. The plot of the original book may be changed in the movie. But kids who really loved reading the book *Holes* by Louis Sachar will also love the movie.

As you get involved in a great book, you start to picture the characters and settings. A good author gives you clues, but the pictures in each reader's minds are different. At first, when Shia LeBoeuf appeared on the screen, I was skeptical. He didn't look at all like I had pictured the main character, Stanley Yelnats. Soon, however, Shia began to grow on me. His acting was so good that he convinced me he was Stanley. Now, when I reread the book, I picture Shia LeBoeuf as Stanley. Then there was the desert. On the screen, you could see how hot it was—and how flat and dry. You could tell that everyone was really sweating.

Louis Sachar is another reason that the movie *Holes* is so good. He wrote the original book. Hollywood had the sense to ask him to write the movie. After all, who knows a book—the characters and plot—better than the author?

A movie can't have everything in it that a book does, but the movie *Holes* is filled with good acting and good writing. It has all the excitement of the book. Go out and see the movie. It will make you want to read the book again, and again.

**An essay** is a short piece of writing that gives an author's opinion on a particular subject.

- ▲ An essay is composed of related paragraphs.
- ▲ All essays contain the following parts: introduction, thesis, body, and conclusion.
- ▲ The introduction is the first paragraph. It always contains the thesis.
- ▲ The thesis reveals the writer's main point or argument.
- ▲ The main body presents facts and details that support the thesis.
- ▲ The conclusion is the last paragraph. It wraps up the essay in a satisfying way.

**Read the above essay. Then discuss these questions.**

1. What is the author's main point, or thesis?
2. What facts or details does he or she use to support this thesis?
3. Is the conclusion satisfying? Does it make you want to see the movie?