

Lola's 4.8 Film Essay

Resubmission Required

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty is about a man who is in charge of photograph negatives for LIFE Magazine. Walter Mitty is responsible for his small family, with one sister and his mother. His father died when he was young, and Walter has been working ever since. Walter's life is really boring, until the most important negative of all time goes missing. Ted Hendricks, one of Walter's new bosses, blames Walter for losing the negative. Walter has to find it before the last edition of LIFE magazine is printed.

Walter's first stop is Nuuk, Greenland. There he meets a drunk helicopter pilot who can bring Walter one step closer to finding Sean O'Connell, the photographer who actually took the photograph that went missing. Walter feels too scared to get on the helicopter. It looks like he's going to fail, until he imagines Cheryl singing to him. Her song encourages Walter to jump on the helicopter. This is a big moment for Walter.

Next, Walter jumps off the helicopter in order to catch a boat. Again, the boat is supposed to bring him closer to Sean. Walter's briefcase saves him from a shark attack. While he's on the boat, he gets more clues about Sean. He travels to Iceland and sees Sean flying towards a volcano that's about to erupt. Sadly, he doesn't get to see Sean before his coworker texts him to come home.

Walter returns home. More people are fired at work. Ted fires Walter. Walter goes to see Cheryl to find another man is at her house. Walter gives up on Cheryl too, and he returns home to his mother and sister. There, he learns that Sean actually visited Walter's mom. With his mom's help, he figures out that Sean is in the Himalayas. Off he goes!

Summarize the film plot in a sentence or two. Then, connect the film to the topic in your introductory paragraph.

Where is your thesis statement, Lola?

You need a topic sentence at the start of each body paragraph. Review, and revise throughout.

Remember, your concluding sentence in your body paragraphs should connect to your thesis. Review, and revise throughout.



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Walter treks across the Himalayas. At first, he has guides, and then even they leave him on his own. When he finds Sean, totally by accident, Walter realizes he will never know what was on Negative 25, because Sean had hid it in the wallet he gave to Walter. Walter had thrown it out in frustration, and he is certain it is gone forever.

When he gets home, his mother gives him the wallet. She had saved it. Sure enough, negative 25 is inside. Without looking at it, Walter returns it proudly to the bosses at *LIFE* magazine, in time to make the printing of the last magazine. He doesn't waste any time in telling off Ted either. Later, Walter and Cheryl see the cover and it turns out it was a picture of Walter doing his job. Sean called this photograph "The Quintessence of Life."

All of your body paragraphs have hardships in them, but you need to be specific in explaining how they explore the idea that facing hardships is an essential human quality. I suggest choosing fewer but important examples and discussing them in greater depth.

How do these details prove your essay question?

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Value	Thought and Support	Form and Structure	Matters of Choice	Matters of Correctness Sentence structures, usage, grammar, and mechanics
Excellent	☐ You present insightful ideas.☐ Your support from the literary example is precise and effective.	☐ Your thesis controls your essay skillfully.☐ You develop your ideas and explanations fluently.	☐ You use precise and effective diction.☐ Your stylistic choices contribute to a convincing voice.	 Your writing demonstrates confident control. You have few and insignificant errors, given the complexity of your work.
Proficient	 You present thoughtful ideas. Your support from the literary example is specific and relevant. 	☐ Your thesis controls your essay.☐ You develop your ideas and explanations coherently.	 You use specific and generally effective diction. Your stylistic choices contribute to a competent voice. 	 ☐ Your writing demonstrates competent control. ☐ You have minor errors that do not impede clarity in your work.
Satisfactory	 You present appropriate ideas. Your support from the literary example is relevant, but general. 	 Your thesis controls your essay, but focus falters occasionally. You develop your ideas and explanations clearly. 	☐ You use appropriate diction.☐ Your stylistic choices contribute to a clear voice.	☐ Your writing demonstrates basic control.☐ You have numerous errors, but your writing is clear.
Limited	 You present superficial ideas. Your support from the literary example is over-generalized or lacking relevance. 	 Your thesis appears in your essay, but focus falters frequently. You develop your ideas and explanations inadequately. 	 ☐ You use imprecise and/or inappropriate diction. ☐ Your stylistic choices contribute to an uncertain or unclear voice. 	 ☐ Your writing demonstrates faltering control. ☐ You have a range of errors in your work that lead to a lack of clarity.
Resubmission Needed	Your attempt to respond is <i>insufficient</i> . Contact your teacher to discuss suggestions for improvement and resubmission of your work.			
TOTAL: /70 = %	/30	/20	/10	/10
Assessment	Areas of strength: Might I suggest: I'm afraid you will need to contact your teacher to arrange to resubmit your work. While none of the information you have given in your response is incorrect, what you have here is a detailed plot summary of the film and not an essay. In a literary exploration essay, you must respond directly to the topic. Even though the details you have included about the film are all accurate, in an essay you must choose important evidence to show Walter's transformation. Discuss those examples in greater detail and connect them to the essay topic.			