

Anthem Essay Contest

For 8th, 9th and 10th Graders
Entry Deadline: March 20, 2010
Essay must be between 600 and 1,200 words in length.

Anthem—Topics

Select ONE of the following three topics:

1. Why do you think the Council of Vocations assigns Equality the job of Street Sweeper? Is it due to error, incompetence or a more sinister motivation? Explain.
2. The old locks and lack of guards in the Palace of Corrective Detention indicate that prisoners never try to escape. Why do you think they do not? Explain.
3. In a single, unified essay, explain the meaning and wider significance of each of the following quotes in the story:
 - a. "To be free, a man must be free of his brothers." (Ch. 12)
 - b. "It is my mind which thinks, and the judgment of my mind is the only searchlight that can find the truth." (Ch. 11)
 - c. "And we thought that we could trust this being who looked upon us from the stream, and that we had nothing to fear with this being." (Ch. 8)

To read a complete list of rules and guidelines, and to find out how to submit your students' essays, please visit our [Web site at www.aynrandeducation.com](http://www.aynrandeducation.com).

The Fountainhead Essay Contest

For 11th and 12th Graders
Entry Deadline: April 26, 2010
Essay must be between 800 and 1,600 words in length.

The Fountainhead—Topics

Select ONE of the following three topics:

1. Howard Roark refuses a major contract when he most needs it, claiming that his a most selfish thing you've ever seen a man do." Why does he call his action "selfish" do other people call it "selfless"?
2. Gail Wynand is a brilliant individual who rose out of the slums by means of his own talent. But despite his reverence for man's noblest achievements, his newspaper, *The Banner*, the most lurid and loathsome values. Why does Wynand pander in this manner? And how does Howard Roark?
3. Choose the scene in *The Fountainhead* that is most meaningful to you. Analyze the scene in terms of the wider themes in the book.

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Free copies of Ayn Rand's books for your classroom!

Go to: freebooks.aynrandeducation.com

About the books

Anthem and *The Fountainhead* both contain many elements that appeal strongly to young readers. They are inspiring and exciting stories, with heroic characters fighting for their ideals. The novels portray events with profound and timeless significance, challenging readers to decide not just what will happen to particular characters, but what their own lives and the world should be like.

"The students loved this novel. They were intrigued from the beginning to the end. The word spread and I had students from other classes coming in to borrow the book. I think it rates as an all time favorite."

—9th-grade teacher from Georgia

Anthem

This novella depicts a dark world of the future, a society so collectivized that all indications of individualism have vanished from the culture. *Anthem's* theme: the meaning and glory of man's ego. *Anthem* is appropriate for grades 8, 9 and 10.

The Fountainhead

The Fountainhead is the story of an innovative, uncompromisingly independent architect, Howard Roark, and his battle against a tradition-worshipping society. Its theme is "individualism versus collectivism, not in politics, but in man's soul." Ayn Rand presented here for the first time her projection of an ideal man. *The Fountainhead* is appropriate for grades 11 and 12.

Atlas Shrugged

Copies of *Atlas Shrugged* are also available to 11th- and 12th-grade AP instructors by special request.

All you have to do is teach the book!

If you are a teacher and would like to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to teach Ayn Rand's novels in your classroom, **go to freebooks.aynrandeducation.com and enter your Web access code which is printed on the front of this flyer.**

Teacher resources

Each set of Ayn Rand novels comes with a teacher's kit to aid your instruction. A kit includes lesson plans and study guides for the novels, extra essay contest flyers for your classroom and a contest poster.

In addition to our teachers kits, the Ayn Rand Institute provides additional classroom resources to enhance your instruction of Ayn Rand's novels in the classroom. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.aynrandeducation.com.

