

Understanding Samanas Assignment

Having finished Section 1 of *Siddhartha*, we've seen Siddhartha willingly join the samanas and their lifestyle of self-deprivation. What does it mean to deprive yourself? How does it feel? Why did they do it? This assignment will help us answer these questions as we experience a little bit of self-deprivation.

FIRST

Think of one thing you do every day. This could be eating chocolate, watching your favorite TV show, or riding your skateboard. Options are endless! This must be something that is not required of you, something you *choose* to do. You should choose something that you would really miss if you had to move somewhere desolate and give it up.

SECOND

For one week, do NOT do the "thing" you've chosen. Do not eat chocolate, do not watch TV, do not ride your skateboard. Each day of the week, you will write your thoughts and feelings in your self-deprivation log.

THIRD

When the week is over, read through your log and write a closing reflection in the box at the bottom. Think about how your self-deprivation affected you. Did you miss it? Were you tempted to give up? Did you ever feel like you could never make it through the week?

FOURTH

Using the notes from your log, find three quotes in the first section of *Siddhartha* that help you connect Siddhartha's self-deprivation experience with your self-deprivation experience.

FIFTH

Write a two-page essay about your deprivation experience that includes details from your notes and implements the three quotes you relate to. Details for the grading and expectations for this essay can be found on the grading sheet. A rough draft of your essay will be peer reviewed, and you will present the final draft to the class.

LAST

When you present, you should bring a prop that represents or illustrates the "thing" you gave up. A picture of you with your prop will be posted with your essay in our classroom, and later made into a class book so future students can read about your experiences.

Due Dates

Self-Deprivation Idea Due:

Self-Deprivation Log Due:

Essay Rough Draft Due:

Final Draft and Presentation:

Name _____

Siddhartha Self-Deprivation Log

Day 1	Day 2
Day 3	Day 4
Day 5	Day 6
Closing Reflection	

Understanding Samanas Grade Sheet

Ideas and Content

_____ points

- Meets purpose of the assignment: informative essay about self-deprivation experience
- Includes the following content:
 - Explanation of what you gave up and why you chose it
 - What you learned about yourself from the experience
 - Relation of your experience to Siddhartha's, comparing and contrasting the physical experience and the feelings behind it (w/ 3 quotes)
- Ideas are unique, interesting, and individual

Organization

_____ points

- Conclusion gives a sense of closure without repetition
- Paragraphs are unified and coherent—effective transitions clarify connections
- Logical order to ideas

Voice

_____ points

- Evidence is unique to individual and interesting to reader
- Tone shows writer's engagement with the experience and sensitivity to audience
- Tone is friendly (non-academic), but informative

Sentence Fluency

_____ points

- Rhythm and fluidity when read aloud to add to speech-like quality
- Variation in sentence length

Word Choice

_____ points

- Specific and precise and accurate
- Appropriate to topic

Essay Total Points

____ / ____

Conventions

_____ points

- Accurate spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- Double-spaced, 10-12 size font

Portfolio/Process

- Self-Deprivation Idea Approved _____ pts
- Self-Deprivation Log on time _____ pts
- Rough Draft stamped on time _____ pts
- Peer Edit completed _____ pts
- Evidence of response to peer comments _____ pts
- Portfolio in order: grade sheet, final draft, log, peer edit sheets, rough draft _____ pts
- Presentation and Prop _____ pts

Process Total Points

____ / ____

TOTAL Grade

____ / ____

Overall Comments: