



My Herzl

Live THE Legacy!

Essay Writing Checklist

In addition to inspiring you to explore the meaning of Herzl's legacy in your own life, we also want to encourage you to challenge your writing skills for a strong, clear sharing of your message.

GET STARTED

- Read the guiding questions and consider your view on Herzl's legacy and how it can be advanced further to meet the needs of today's Jewish world
- Explore our "My Herzl materials" to become more informed about who Theodor Herzl was and how the dream of one man could have such a tremendous impact
- Make notes on the elements of his experience as a leader, an activist, a visionary that you feel are relevant to your message
- Begin drafting your essay

READ THESE GREAT TIPS TO SHAPE YOUR BEST ESSAY TO PRESENT YOUR IDEAS.

INTRODUCTION

- Make a statement with your first sentence. This is the hook and is designed to grab the reader's attention.
- Draw the connection from the initial idea to the thesis statement, which is the last sentence in the introduction paragraph
- The thesis statement clearly and directly states your concept about Herzl
- The introduction paragraph should be 4 – 6 sentences

BODY PARAGRAPHS

- Body paragraphs are developed with supporting passages/quotes that strengthen your argument
- The topic sentences are an extension of the thesis statement—each topic sentence clearly proves and supports the thesis statement and responds to the prompt or writing assignment. Write an effective topic sentence that:
 - States a claim, idea, or assertion that proves and supports your thesis/idea
 - Form as a statement that clarifies the focus of the paragraph for the reader
 - Addresses how/why questions, is very clear and very specific
 - Avoids stating the obvious
 - Avoids passive voice
- The topic sentence is the first sentence of each body paragraph
- The last sentence of each body paragraph is a concluding sentence that summarizes the paragraph and/or transitions to the next paragraph

CONCLUSION

- Restate the thesis statement in a different way
- Don't write "In conclusion..."
- Summarize the main ideas without being repetitive
- End with your vision for the future
- Leave the reader thinking and pondering

IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF CREATIVE EXPRESSION

- Use formal writing style, tone, and language
- Avoid slang, poor diction, non-specific language, and contractions
- Avoid addressing the reader and the use of first-person
- Avoid asking rhetorical questions, parenthesis, exclamation points
- Be mindful and aware of MLA format in citing your sources in the text
- Pay attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Always proofread and self-edit your work
- Get someone else to proofread your work and read all/parts of it aloud yourself
- Give your essay a creative, thoughtful and interesting title
- If you are using a quote or referencing someone else to support your ideas or argument, mention them whenever if possible

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR WORK AND GIVE THE ESSAY 100% OF YOUR EFFORT!

Guiding Questions for Essays:

You may select one or more of these questions, or use them as a guide for crafting your own essay question.

- What dream for the Jewish people do you think is impossible to achieve, that you would be willing to work towards? How would you go about doing it?
- What would be the first item on the agenda of a Zionist Congress you would call?
- Now that there is a Jewish State, what is the 21st century universal goal for the Jewish people? What role would you play in helping to achieve that goal?
- How do tradition and start-up modernity merge in Israel and how is this a part of Herzl's legacy?
- Herzl's dream was fulfilled but not completed. What do you think is needed to complete the dream, and what would you do to help complete it?
- What is the significance of the memory of the Shoah to Herzl's legacy?
- What is your Altneuland- the combination of new and old together?
- How does Herzl's balcony pose symbolize his dream of the Jewish People to be in Israel?
- Fill in the blanks: If you _____ it, it is not a _____. Why would this be your motto?

