

## ESSAY QUESTION FOR: **STOKED 1969**

Making connections in literature, as well as in life, is an important strategy for reading comprehension. In the novel, *Stoked – 1969*, Jake Edwards is faced with a choice that makes a big difference in his life. In an essay, describe Jake’s choice and its impact on his life. In addition, think of a time when you were faced with a choice that made a big difference in your life. Explain how that choice affected your life. Be sure to include background information on the choice you made, and a description of how and why you made your choice.

In this essay, you must:

- Describe a choice that Jake Edwards made in the novel and how that choice impacted his life.
- Describe a choice you’ve made in your life and how that choice affected your life. Explain what the choice was, how and why you made that choice, and how that choice impacted your life.
- Use 2 to 3 examples or details to support your answers.

Remember to proofread your written work. Check your writing for correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

### FORMAT FOR A FOUR-PARAGRAPH ESSAY

#### CREATE AN INTRIGUING, ORIGINAL TITLE

**INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH:** The introduction is a key paragraph. First impressions matter. A carefully crafted first paragraph acts as a road map, establishing the order and direction for your essay. Hook the reader with a catchy first sentence that draws your reader into your writing. Include in this paragraph the author, title, setting (both time and place), and the genre of the text you will be discussing. Within the introductory paragraph, clearly and concisely state the position you will defend in your essay. Steal from the question to inform the reader what your essay will discuss, describe, and explain.

**PARAGRAPH 1 OF THE BODY OF THE ESSAY:** Discuss the choice Jake Edwards makes in the novel and how that choice impacts his life. Give 2 to 3 supporting details from the text. Citing excerpts from the text, using MLA style, strengthens your position.

**PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE BODY OF THE ESSAY:** Describe a choice you've made in your life and how that choice affected your life. Explain what the choice was, how and why you made your choice, and how that choice impacted your life. Use 2 to 3 examples or details to support your answer. Citing excerpts from the text, using MLA style, strengthens your position.

**CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH:** Restate what you want the reader to remember. You can do this by restating or paraphrasing your thesis statement.

