Excerpt From Civil Disobedience Commonlit Answers



Requisition (noun): an official demand that some duty should be performed or something be put into operation

Excerpt from Civil Disobedience CommonLit Answers: A Comprehensive Guide

Are you struggling with the CommonLit assignment on Thoreau's "Excerpt from Civil Disobedience"? Feeling overwhelmed by the complex philosophical arguments and the need to craft insightful answers? You've come to the right place. This comprehensive guide provides not just answers, but a deeper understanding of Thoreau's seminal work, helping you ace your CommonLit assignment and

gain a valuable appreciation for this foundational text in civil rights and political philosophy. We'll dissect key themes, analyze important quotes, and provide strategies for crafting compelling responses to common CommonLit questions. Let's dive in!

Understanding Thoreau's Central Argument in "Civil Disobedience"

Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience" is a powerful argument for individual conscience and the moral obligation to resist unjust laws. He doesn't advocate for anarchy but rather for a conscientious and informed approach to civil engagement. His core argument rests on the idea that individuals should prioritize their moral compass above blind obedience to the state, even if that means facing legal consequences.

Key Themes Explored:

The Individual's Moral Duty: Thoreau emphasizes the importance of individual conscience and the responsibility to resist unjust laws. He believes that individuals should not blindly follow laws that violate their moral principles.

The Power of Nonviolent Resistance: While not explicitly advocating for nonviolent resistance in the modern sense, Thoreau's emphasis on conscience and peaceful refusal to cooperate lays the groundwork for later movements like the Civil Rights Movement. He argues that the most powerful resistance comes from refusing to participate in the systems you find unjust.

The Importance of Self-Reliance: Thoreau champions self-reliance and independent thinking as crucial for effective resistance. He challenges individuals to question authority and to trust their own judgment.

The Role of Government: Thoreau critiques the nature of government, arguing that it is often inefficient, corrupt, and unresponsive to the needs of its citizens. He proposes a more streamlined, just government based on individual conscience.

Analyzing Key Passages and Answering CommonLit Questions

CommonLit questions often focus on understanding Thoreau's arguments, identifying textual evidence, and analyzing his tone and style. To effectively answer these questions, focus on:

Identifying Central Claims:

Pinpoint the main points Thoreau is making in each section. What are his key arguments, and what evidence does he use to support them? Understanding his central claims is crucial for answering CommonLit's analysis questions.

Analyzing Tone and Style:

Thoreau's writing style is both persuasive and provocative. He uses rhetorical devices like imagery and analogy to convey his message. Understanding his tone (serious, passionate, indignant, etc.) will help you interpret his meaning accurately.

Connecting Textual Evidence to Your Answers:

Always support your answers with direct quotes or references from the text. CommonLit emphasizes textual evidence, so this is essential for achieving a high score. When referencing, use proper in-text citations according to your CommonLit assignment guidelines.

Example CommonLit Question & Answer Strategy:

Question: Explain Thoreau's critique of majority rule. Use textual evidence to support your answer.

Answer: Thoreau argues against blindly following the majority's opinion, stating that "a government in which the majority rule in all cases cannot be based on justice." He believes that a just government should be based on individual morality and conscience, not simply the will of the majority. He asserts that a person should "never forget that some are right and some are wrong" even if the majority disagrees. This shows his belief that individual morality should outweigh popular opinion when dealing with unjust laws.

Preparing for Your CommonLit Assignment

To prepare effectively for your CommonLit assignment on "Excerpt from Civil Disobedience," consider these steps:

Read Carefully and Annotate: Read the excerpt multiple times, annotating key passages, themes, and arguments. Highlight important quotes and note your reactions to the text.

Consult Secondary Sources: Research additional materials on Thoreau and his philosophy to gain a more complete understanding of his ideas.

Practice Answering Questions: Practice answering sample questions similar to those found on CommonLit. This will help you become more comfortable with the format and expectations of the assignment.

Seek Help When Needed: If you're struggling with any aspect of the assignment, don't hesitate to seek help from a teacher, tutor, or classmate.

Conclusion

Mastering "Excerpt from Civil Disobedience" requires careful reading, critical analysis, and a strong understanding of Thoreau's philosophy. By focusing on the key themes, analyzing important passages, and practicing your response skills, you can confidently approach your CommonLit assignment and achieve a strong understanding of this pivotal work. Remember to always support your answers with textual evidence and to articulate your understanding clearly and concisely.

FAQs

- 1. What is the main idea of Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience"? The main idea is that individuals have a moral obligation to disobey unjust laws and to prioritize their conscience over blind obedience to the state.
- 2. How does Thoreau's essay relate to modern civil rights movements? Thoreau's emphasis on individual conscience and peaceful resistance directly influenced later movements like the Civil Rights Movement, providing a philosophical framework for nonviolent protest.
- 3. What are some examples of textual evidence I can use to support my answers? Look for quotes that explicitly discuss individual conscience, unjust laws, the role of government, or the importance of resisting oppression.
- 4. What if I disagree with Thoreau's arguments? Can I still get a good grade? You can express your differing opinions, but you must still accurately represent Thoreau's arguments and support your counterarguments with evidence. Critical analysis is encouraged.
- 5. Where can I find more information about Henry David Thoreau and his philosophy? Consult reputable academic sources like encyclopedias, scholarly articles, and biographies of Thoreau. Many online resources also provide valuable information.

Henry David Thoreau, 101-01-01

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Civil Disobedience Henry David Thoreau, 2009-01-01 Thoreau wrote Civil Disobedience in 1849. It argues the superiority of the individual conscience over acquiescence to government. Thoreau was inspired to write in response to slavery and the Mexican-American war. He believed that people could not be made agents of injustice if they were governed by their own consciences.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Where I Lived, and What I Lived For Henry Thoreau, 2005-08-25 Throughout history, some books have changed the world. They have transformed the way we see ourselves - and each other. They have inspired debate, dissent, war and revolution. They have enlightened, outraged, provoked and comforted. They have enriched lives - and destroyed them. Now Penguin brings you the works of the great thinkers, pioneers, radicals and visionaries whose ideas shook civilization and helped make us who we are. Thoreau's account of his solitary and self-sufficient home in the New England woods remains an inspiration to the environmental movement - a call to his fellow men to abandon their striving, materialistic existences of 'quiet desperation' for a simple life within their means, finding spiritual truth through awareness of the sheer beauty of their surroundings.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Walden Henry David Thoreau, 1882 excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Common Sense Thomas Paine, 1791 excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: We Yevgeny Zamyatin, 2023-03-06 We is a dystopian novel written by Russian writer Yevgeny Zamyatin. Originally drafted in Russian, the book could be published only abroad. It was translated into English in 1924. Even as the book won a wide readership overseas, the author's satiric depiction led to his banishment under Joseph Stalin's regime in the then USSR. The book's depiction of life under a totalitarian state influenced the other novels of the 20th century. Like Aldous Huxley's Brave New World and George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-four, We describes a future socialist society that has turned out to be not perfect but inhuman. Orwell claimed that Brave New World must be partly derived from We, but Huxley denied this. The novel is set in the future. D-503, a spacecraft engineer, lives in the One State which assists mass surveillance. Here life is scientifically managed. There is no way of referring to people except by their given numbers. The society is run strictly by reason as the primary justification for the construct of the society. By way of formulae and equations outlined by the One State, the individual's behaviour is based on logic.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: The Birthmark Nathaniel Hawthorne, 2023-12-28 The Birthmark deals with the husband's deeply negative obsession of his wife's outer appearances and what does that entail for these two young couples. The birthmark represents various things throughout the story. Two of the main representations are imperfection and mortality. American novelist and short story writer Nathaniel Hawthorne's (1804–1864) writing centers on New England, many works featuring moral allegories with a Puritan inspiration. Hawthorne has also written a few poems which many people are not aware of. His works are considered to be part of the Romantic movement and, more specifically, Dark romanticism. His themes often centre on the inherent evil and sin of humanity, and his works often have moral messages and deep psychological complexity.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Oration by Frederick Douglass.

Delivered on the Occasion of the Unveiling of the Freedmen's Monument in Memory of Abraham

Lincoln, in Lincoln Park, Washington, D.C., April 14th, 1876, with an Appendix Frederick Douglass, 2024-06-14 Reprint of the original, first published in 1876.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Letter from Birmingham Jail Martin Luther King, 2025-01-14 A beautiful commemorative edition of Dr. Martin Luther King's essay Letter from Birmingham Jail, part of Dr. King's archives published exclusively by HarperCollins. With an afterword by Reginald Dwayne Betts On April 16, 1923, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., responded to an open letter written and published by eight white clergyman admonishing the civil rights demonstrations happening in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. King drafted his seminal response on

scraps of paper smuggled into jail. King criticizes his detractors for caring more about order than justice, defends nonviolent protests, and argues for the moral responsibility to obey just laws while disobeying unjust ones. Letter from Birmingham Jail proclaims a message - confronting any injustice is an acceptable and righteous reason for civil disobedience. This beautifully designed edition presents Dr. King's speech in its entirety, paying tribute to this extraordinary leader and his immeasurable contribution, and inspiring a new generation of activists dedicated to carrying on the fight for justice and equality.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: The Witch of Blackbird Pond Elizabeth George Speare, 1958 Sixteen-year-old Kit Tyler is marked by suspicion and disapproval from the moment she arrives on the unfamiliar shores of colonial Connecticut in 1687. Alone and desperate, she has been forced to leave her beloved home on the island of Barbados and join a family she has never met. Torn between her quest for belonging and her desire to be true to herself, Kit struggles to survive in a hostile place. Just when it seems she must give up, she finds a kindred spirit. But Kit's friendship with Hannah Tupper, believed by the colonists to be a witch, proves more taboo than she could have imagined and ultimately forces Kit to choose between her heart and her duty. Elizabeth George Speare won the 1959 Newbery Medal for this portrayal of a heroine whom readers will admire for her unwavering sense of truth as well as her infinite capacity to love.

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excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: The Thing Around Your Neck Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, 2009-06-16 From the award-winning, bestselling author of Americanah and We Should All Be Feminists—a dazzling story collection filled with indelible characters who jump off the page and into your head and heart (USA Today). In these twelve riveting stories, the award-winning Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie explores the ties that bind men and women, parents and children, Africa and the United States. Searing and profound, suffused with beauty, sorrow, and longing, these stories map, with Adichie's signature emotional wisdom, the collision of two cultures and the deeply human struggle to reconcile them.

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excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: The Language of Literature, 2002 excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: To Live Deliberately Henry David Thoreau, 2019-09-17 Henry David Thoreau dropped the gauntlet with Walden in 1854, and it is more relevant than ever. To Live Deliberately is our visual reimagining of Thoreau's most well-known essay, Where I Lived and What I Lived For. Accompanied by 30 illustrations, the essay challenges the trappings of modern living and embraces an ascetic rejection of the material and the trivial in

exchange for a reconnection with nature as a path toward self-discovery. We judiciously edited Thoreau's essay to avoid any unnecessarily confusing news references, and were amazed to discover that not only does this manifesto otherwise hold up, but it also feels surprisingly modern and more relevant than ever. Thoreau's rejection of news as largely gossip, and the obsession with travel and railroads as idle self-indulgence, bear a sobering resemblance to our modern preoccupation with social media and internet surfing. In both instances, the impulse to seek distraction is the same. The Obvious State Classics Collection is an evolving series of visually reimagined beloved works that speaks to contemporary readers. The pocket-sized, collectable editions feature the selected works of celebrated authors such as T. S. Eliot, Edgar Allan Poe, Walt Whitman, Sara Teasdale and Henry David Thoreau.

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excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Henry David Thoreau Collection Henry David Thoreau, 2021-05-25 Henri David Thoreau was an American writer, philosopher, publicist, naturalist, and poet. He prominently represented American transcendentalism throughout the mid-1800s. Thoreau's love and observations of nature played a significant role in his writings, often forming the basis for critiques on modern society. As a naturalist, he advocated for the

conservation of nature. Thoreau encouraged individual, passive, non-violent as a means of resistance to public evils. He personally supported the abolitionist movement and, as much as possible, took an active interest in the fate of fugitive slaves who were sought by the police. His essay On the Duty of Civil Disobedience (1849) influenced Leo Tolstoy, Gandhi, and Martin Luther King. Thoreau's key ideas and observations are contained in these collected works.

excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: White Fang Jack London, 1906 excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: Happiness Is . . . 500 Ways to Be in the Moment Lisa Swerling, Ralph Lazar, 2016-03-15 Mindful living is happy living. Discover five hundred ways to notice—and embrace—the best moments in life. This refreshing book from the creators of Happiness Is. . . . illustrates five hundred inspiring ways to slow down, unplug, de-stress, connect with others, and relish the simple moments in life: sitting under a ceiling fan on a hot day, taking lunch away from your desk, letting go of negative thoughts, a beach yoga session, and more. Featuring charming illustrations and a friendly tone, this book sparks positive reflection and serves to remind us that happiness is all around—and within.

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excerpt from civil disobedience commonlit answers: The American Scholar Ralph Waldo Emerson, 2020-09-28 I greet you on the re-commencement of our literary year. Our anniversary is one of hope, and, perhaps, not enough of labor. We do not meet for games of strength or skill, for the recitation of histories, tragedies, and odes, like the ancient Greeks; for parliaments of love and poesy, like the Troubadours; nor for the advancement of science, like our cotemporaries in the British and European capitals. Thus far, our holiday has been simply a friendly sign of the survival of the love of letters amongst a people too busy to give to letters any more. As such, it is precious as the sign of an indestructible instinct. Perhaps the time is already come, when it ought to be, and will be, something else; when the sluggard intellect of this continent will look from under its iron lids, and fill the postponed expectation of the world with something better than the exertions of mechanical skill. Our day of dependence, our long apprenticeship to the learning of other lands, draws to a close. The millions, that around us are rushing into life, cannot always be fed on the sere remains of foreign harvests. Events, actions arise, that must be sung, that will sing themselves. Who can doubt, that poetry will revive and lead in a new age, as the star in the constellation Harp, which now flames in our zenith, astronomers announce, shall one day be the pole-star for a thousand vears?

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of the most powerful orators of her time, Sojourner Truth fought for the equal rights of Black women throughout her life. This selection of her impassioned speeches is accompanied by the words of other inspiring African-American female campaigners from the nineteenth century. One of twenty new books in the bestselling Penguin Great Ideas series. This new selection showcases a diverse list of thinkers who have helped shape our world today, from anarchists to stoics, feminists to prophets, satirists to Zen Buddhists.

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