

Possible Chains Essay Topics

You will be composing an essay in class. You may use the book, your notes, and any outlines you generate in response to the prompts when writing your essay. Each essays needs:

- A thesis
- An introduction that includes an interesting lead, the title and author of the book, any relevant background information, and the thesis
- [At least] Three body paragraphs that use examples to "show" the thesis
- Quotes and specific examples from the text to support the thesis
- A conclusion that restates the thesis and three ideas that support the thesis
- A creative and relevant title

1. Using at least three examples from the novel, analyze how Chains can be considered a work of good historical fiction. Be sure to provide a definition of good historical fiction in your paper.
2. Discuss irony in Chains. What are the ironies in the novel? Provide several examples of how Laurie Halse Anderson uses irony throughout the novel. Make sure you provide a clear definition of irony in your paper.
3. What is one theme in Chains? How does Laurie Halse Anderson "show" that theme throughout the text (using plot, character, conflict, etc...)? Make sure you give a clear definition of theme in your paper.
4. How does the title Chains relate to the novel itself? How does Laurie Halse Anderson use "chains" as an antonym to freedom? Are there other interpretations of the word "chains" that can relate to this text?