

The alchemist essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

Many people know what their Personal Legend is and some have achieved it. But in the story *The Alchemist* a shepherd boy named Santiago achieves his Personal Legend with some help from three major characters who teach him many important things.

The crystal merchant is one of the characters that helped Santiago by encouraging him and helping him earn back his money. Another important character who helped Santiago in his journey was the English man. He helped Santiago understand many things that he did not know before. The alchemist is an important character who helped Santiago in his journey. He made Santiago realize what would happen to Santiago if he did not follow his Personal Legend.

In *The Alchemist* Santiago learns more about his new surroundings which lead him to his Personal Legend. But as he learns these things he also grows from them.

The crystal merchant was one of the important characters who helped Santiago in his journey to achieve his Personal Legend. The crystal merchant did not teach Santiago much but the things he did teach him were very important. When Santiago first met the crystal merchant he was told that the pyramids would take a long time to get to and even if he worked for him for a year he would not have enough money to get there. This made Santiago turn away from his Personal Legend and concentrate on earning some more money to go back to Spain and become a shepherd again. When Santiago finally earned enough money to go back to Spain and double his flock he told the crystal merchant that he was leaving.

“ I am proud of you,” the crystal merchant said. “ You brought a new feeling into my crystal shop. But you know that I’m not going to go to Mecca. Just as you know that you’re not going to buy your sheep.”

“ Who told you that?” asked the boy, startled.

“ Maktub,” said the old merchant and he gave the boy his blessing (Coelho, 28). The crystal merchant was one character who taught Santiago a new language, which was Arabic. He lifted Santiago’s spirit by saying only one word “ Maktub.” This one word was very important in Santiago’s journey.

Another character who strongly effected Santiago in a positive way was the Englishman. Even though he did not teach Santiago a new language he did teach Santiago a little bit about alchemy. This encounter also had a positive effect on Santiago because he found out that the path he was following was positive. When the Englishman let Santiago borrow his books they did not teach him much. It was when the Englishman told Santiago what alchemy and what the soul of the world was, he finally understood. . He also told Santiago that all alchemists have achieved their Personal Legend and that alchemists could turn lead into gold. This made Santiago think that if he achieved his Personal Legend, then he could become an alchemist and turn lead into gold.

“ That’s the principal that governs all things,” the Englishman said. “ In alchemy, it’s called the Soul of the World. When you want something with all your heart that’s when you are closest to the Soul of the World. It’s always a positive force” (Coelho, 80).

The Englishman was an important person in Santiago's journey. This was because he got Santiago even more excited to achieve his Personal Legend and he taught him about alchemy.

The alchemist is the most important person to Santiago because he taught Santiago the most, and he guided him across the desert. The alchemist was the biggest help in Santiago's journey because he was not only a good teacher, but he was also a good friend. The alchemist encouraged Santiago the most because when Santiago had to turn himself into the wind, the alchemist told him that he could do it and that anything was possible if he tried. The alchemist also told him that everything had a soul and if he could read omens then his trip would be easy. The alchemist also taught Santiago to listen to his heart in order to speak the Language of the World,

“ Remember that wherever your heart is, there you will find your treasure. You've got to find the treasure, so that everything you have learned along the way can make sense” (Coelho, 117).

The alchemist was the most important person that Santiago met along the way. The alchemist taught Santiago many things that helped him grow.

In *The Alchemist* Santiago learned from three main characters the crystal merchant, the Englishman and the alchemist. These characters helped Santiago grow and they helped him to understand his Personal Legend. The crystal merchant taught Santiago about his destiny. He told him that it was important to make changes in our lives and he told him that it takes time to achieve goals in life. The Englishman's books taught Santiago a little bit about alchemy. He also told Santiago that the path he was following was

positive and he also told Santiago that all alchemists had achieved their Personal Legends. The alchemist taught Santiago to listen to his heart in order to speak the language of the world. He told Santiago that anything was possible if he tried and he taught Santiago how to read the omens.

The Alchemist is a very realistic story and anyone who understands it can probably find out what their Personal Legend is. This book is very interesting and provides anyone who reads it with a lot of wisdom. It is very exciting and it shows a lot of depth in detail.