

Old man and the sea assignment



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

There is a scene in Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, when after a shark has taken a big chunk "about forty pounds" off Santiago's prize marlin catch, Santiago begins to doubt whether he should have gone out to sea and wishes that he had never "hooked the fish and was alone in bed on the newspapers". Immediately after that, Santiago says, "But man is not made for defeat. A man can be destroyed but not defeated". Do you find this assertion to be true?

Can a man (or a woman) be destroyed but not defeated? Write a five-paragraph essay in which you illustrate the ways in which this statement is either true or false. I. The introductory paragraph should provide the title and author of the novel and a brief, maybe two-sentence summary of the plot. Then, you should state a thesis along the following lines: It is indeed true that a man can be destroyed but not defeated, and we can see this in Santiago's struggle with the marlin and in the struggle of _____ with _____. OR

It is not true that a man can be destroyed but not defeated, and this is evident when we analyze Santiago's struggle with the marlin and _____'s struggle with _____. II. The first body paragraph should explain what it means to be destroyed but not defeated and you should argue whether you think that indeed it is possible to be destroyed but not defeated. III. In the second body paragraph, explain how and why Santiago is destroyed but not defeated or how he is destroyed and defeated or whatever other option you have chosen to argue.

IV. In the third body paragraph, you may use examples of people in the public eye, in history, or in your personal life, whose experiences prove your thesis. V. A concluding paragraph that briefly discusses what the lesson of the marlin is. Use a minimum of three quotes from the novel. Use parenthetical citations indicating the page number where you got the quote. Include a Works Cited page at the end of your paper. Please attach the following grading criteria sheet to your papers.

Criteria	Your Points	Total Points
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Clearly articulated thesis statement	_____	10 points
Clearly stated topic sentences with transition words and repeated key words from thesis	_____	10 points
Body paragraphs provide examples that are specific—about a specific person, in a specific situation	_____	30 points
Clearly connected ideas by way of order or details, transition words and phrases and repeated key words	_____	15 points
Standard American Grammar	_____	30 points
Parenthetical citations and work cited entry	_____	5 points
Total	_____	100 points