

Essay Prompts on Family

Family as Foundation or Flaw

In many literary works, family relationships are central to a character's development. Choose a character from your novel and analyze how the family dynamics shape their identity and decisions.

The Burden of Legacy

Explore how the burden of family expectations or legacy influences a character's path. How do inherited values, reputations, or responsibilities affect the character's choices?

Chosen vs. Biological Family

Some characters form bonds outside of their biological families that prove more meaningful or supportive. Analyze where "chosen family" plays a significant role, and compare it to the protagonist's experience with their biological family.

Conflict and Reconciliation

Talk about how a family conflict drives the plot. How does the resolution—or lack of resolution—reflect the broader themes of the work?

Generational Differences

How does a work portray tensions between generations within a family? Discuss how these differences reflect cultural, historical, or personal change.