

Essay Prompts on Hardship

From Suffering to Hope

Analyze how a work moves from despair to hope, and whether the hope is realistic or idealized.

Endurance Without Reward

Some characters endure great hardship without ever receiving relief or justice. How does this affect the overall message of the work?

Resilience Through Adversity

Choose a literary character who endures severe hardship. How does their response to suffering shape their identity, values, and relationships? Does the hardship ultimately strengthen or weaken them?

Moral Choices Under Pressure

In many works, hardship forces characters to make morally complex decisions. Examine one such moment and argue whether the choice reflects survival, integrity, or moral failure.