In the text “Fly Away Home,” by Eve Bunting, Andrew, the protagonist and his dad live in an airport and they are very careful. They are very careful because they want to be safe, they want to live a decent life, and they don’t want to be noticed or kicked out.

The biggest reason that they live in an airport is that they want to be safe. It is important to notice that they live in an airport because his mom died and the dad did not have a good paying job to get them an apartment. This means that they decided to live in the airport until Andrew’s dad could find more work so he could get them an apartment. “I see Annie Frannie and Idaho Joe. Says Andrew’s dad. But we don’t talk to them, that will get you noticed more than anything. To stay safe, don’t get noticed.”

Furthermore, they want to live a good life. Even though it seems like they have it bad, this is significant because they have money for food and they have shelter. The evidence states he buys food for everyone. “When my dad gets home home, he buys burgers for us and the Medinas.” This shows that they have some money just not
a lot. Some people might claim that this is insignificant, but we disagree because Andrew’s dad is trying to find an apartment so that proves that they have some money or they wouldn’t stand a chance to get an apartment.

In addition, this shows that they don’t want to be kicked out because if they were kicked out, they would be living on the streets. A lady with a dirty coat and a big cart full of stuff. Security moved her out real fast. For instance, It is important to notice that they sleep in a different place each night. Can you imagine doing that? It would be hard.

In conclusion, evidence shows that it is better to live in the airport than on the streets. According to our reasons, we think this because they want to be safe, they want to live a decent life, and finally, because they don’t want to be noticed or kicked out.

Jack
Fly Away Home Literary Essay #2
by Jack

In the story *Fly Away Home*, Eve Bunting teaches us that sometimes you have to just work through tough times in life. Working through tough times teaches you discipline and perseverance. I think this because the bird worked through not being able to get out of the airport and after a little while finally got out, because Andrew’s dad still goes to his job every day and barely brings home any money, but is saving so that someday he can get a better job and have a real home, and because Andrew helps people with their bags to try and get money with his friend, Denny.

First off, the bird in *Fly Away Home* got stuck inside of the airport and had to work through being stuck and just keep trying. If the bird just gave up trying, he would probably still be in there now, but it kept trying and eventually got out. I feel this is important because if the bird gets out by not giving up, then Andrew and his dad will get out of being homeless.

Another reason is that Andrew’s dad goes to his underpaying job every day and comes back with just barely enough money to feed him and his family. I bet if he keeps working at his job, more job opportunities will come to him, and then him and Andrew will be able to live a pretty decent life. In the text, Andrew asks his dad, “Will
we ever have our own apartment again?”, and I think that is one of Andrew’s dad’s main motivations to keep working at his job.

Lastly, Andrew and Andrew’s friend, Denny, while Andrew’s dad is at work, go to the front of the airport and help people with bags to try and get money. I think this is important because it shows that Andrew is getting older and more mature. In the text, it says ‘Sometimes passengers don’t tip. Then Denny whispers, “Stingy!” but he doesn’t whisper too loud.’, so I think maybe Andrew disapproves of this but doesn’t say it out loud, so Denny doesn’t get mad at him. Also, maybe sometimes tries to get Denny to stop, but he just won’t.

In conclusion, I think that it is definitely worth it to work through the tough times in life. It really does give you so much discipline and teaches you so much perseverance. In Fly Away Home, there is a little brown bird that got stuck inside of the airport. It flew into the window, but only fell to the ground. After a little while, at the perfect time, the bird saw an opportunity to get out. The bird worked through not being able to get out and he got out. Working through tough times not only makes you a better person, but also gives you more appreciation for the good things in life and more empathy for other people going through tough times.

Jack
Fly Away Home and Raymond’s Run
Literary Essay #3
By Jack

In the stories *Fly Away Home* and *Raymond’s Run*, they are both completely different but also the same. In *Fly Away Home* and *Raymond’s Run*, they both share a common theme: Don’t stop trying. In my opinion, that’s one of the best themes that there are, and here’s why; If you just give up, even for small things, that will make you tell yourself that you don’t have to do things, and when big stuff comes around, you might just tell yourself that you can give up right in the middle of it. If you give up, you will never accomplish anything!

In *Fly Away Home*, by Eve Bunting, it is about a boy named Andrew and his father who are very poor. They live in an airport and the dad can barely bring home enough money from his job to feed them. Andrew knows how to get away with sneaking around in the airport, and even being able to fall asleep without getting caught. He knows all of the people who live in the airport, too, and he knows which ones will most likely get caught, and which ones he can hang around. Sometimes, Andrew will go and help people by carrying their bags for them with his friend, Denny, to try and make money for themselves and their families.

Jack
In *Raymond’s Run*, by Tony Bambara, it is about a girl named Squeaky who is really tough and angry with everyone, no matter how nice they are to her. She is a very suspicious person. I think that this is because of her brother, Raymond. Her brother has special needs and lots of people make fun of him and are rude to him because of that. Squeaky has always had to stick up for and protect herself and her brother from everyone, according to her. She does not realize that there are actually nice people in the world.

In conclusion, *Raymond’s Run* and *Fly Away Home* both stick out to me for the same reasons, but also for some different reasons, as they might with you. Thank you for reading this essay, and have a great day!

Jack
In the text Papa’s Parrot, by Cynthia Rylant, Harry, the Antagonist, Should always love his family, no matter what. He should always love his family because they have always loved him, because his family needs him, and because if he doesn’t love his family, then he will end up being a bad person.

First off, one reason Harry should always love his family is because they have always loved him. If he doesn’t love his family, his family will probably stop loving him, and then he would be sad and lonely.
Another reason Harry should always love his family is because his family needs him. His dad has started becoming very antisocial, and only talks to people when he has to. I know this because in the story, when Harry is in the shop filling in for his dad, Rocky, the parrot, won’t stop repeating, “Where’s Harry?” and “Miss Him!”. Other than that, he talks to his pet parrot, Rocky.

Finally, the last reason Harry should always love his family is because if he doesn’t love his family, then he will end up being a bad person. If he becomes a bad person, he will not appreciate good things that come to him. Instead, he will be just like Ebenezer Scrooge.

In conclusion, I think that Harry needs to always love his family because they have
always loved him, because his family needs him, and because if he doesn’t love his family, then he will end up being a bad person. In the end, Harry realizes that he has been ignoring his father for all those years, and then realizes how much his father had missed him coming to the candy and nut shop, so he went right away to visit his father.
My dad and I sped across the parking lot, and I practically jumped out of the moving car. When my dad parked, I got my stuff and ran to the field. I couldn't find the field I was on, but I saw some kids on my team, so I went to them. Of course, just my luck, they didn’t know where they were going, either.

Finally, we found the Saline Sabres tent with our team flag on it. Everyone else was there getting their pads on or playing catch, so we rushed and caught up to everyone else. As soon as my coach got there, we started warm up. After warm up, the ref blew the whistle which pretty much means unless you’re playing, get off the field.

TWEET! The ref blew the whistle again, to start the face-off. They won, of course, because their team is comprised of only the best kids at lacrosse in all of Canada. The guy I was guarding was massive! He was twice my size, in width and height. This is so unfair, I thought as the other team passed him the ball. He ran up the field so fast I could never catch him. “CUTTER CUTTER CUTTER!!!!” I yelled, but it was no use. To make it even worse, he turned around, and shot at the goal without looking and made it. That was cruel to our goalie, because he is only 12, but can play for a U15 team, so we all felt really bad for him.

This went on for about ten more goals, and then, we decided enough was enough, so we brought in shane, the U17 goalie to help us out. The other team didn’t really care, because they probably had about 10 overage players on their team. Shane blocked almost every shot they took and every time he hit them, they would go down. The game was turning out to be a whole lot better.

At that time I realized, none of this is about winning, although that’s what you want, it’s about being a team and having fun. At the end of that game, my coach brought us into a team huddle. “There wasn’t much we could do about that one, but don’t let that bring you down. Keep your heads held high,”.

That really stuck with me, and I thought, there are always going to be people bigger and better than you at something, but you can’t let that affect you. If it really does bother you, start working harder than they are and before you know it, you’ll be the best.

Snowboarding Personal Narrative #2
by Jack S

Jack
I got to the top of the ski lift and put my boot in my binding. I got up and raced my sister down the mountain. “Haha I’m winning!”, I yelled to her.

She fell down trying to go too fast and I beat her by about 30 seconds. We went up and down a couple more times. By coincidence, we saw my sisters friend, so they went off together and I went to the mountain with my aunt so that my parents wouldn’t be worried. We got up and were going at a normal pace, the wind screaming in my face, and then all of a sudden, I went down a slope and WHOOSH! I ran right into a huge snow bank! Instantly, I had a BAD headache and my aunt could tell. As she helped me up she asked, “Are you ok? That looked bad!”

I remember when I was very little my dad taught me to ice skate. I fell down so much, I probably had like 40 bruises. He told me,” Never give up. Just keep trying,”. That is what inspired me to try snowboarding in the first place. Who cares if you fall down? All that matters is that you get up!

“Yeah, I think I’m ok,” I replied.

I decided that I couldn’t snowboard any more that day, so we went to the pub my parents were at, and I went home. about 2 hours later, I was feeling a lot better. I felt good enough to snowboard again. I asked my mom,”Can we go back out for about an hour more? Please?”.

“Ok,” She replied.

So we went back to the mountain and I went about 5 more times, because it takes about 10 minutes to get up the ski lift. By the time I came down the 5th time, I was exhausted, and it was starting to get dark. It was time to go home and eat dinner, so I said goodbye to the mountain, knowing I would come again the next day.

Later that night I lay in my bed and thought, wow, if I had been alone and that happened, I don’t know what would’ve happened, but it would have been WAY worse then having her right there to help me up. I got up and got some water, and I was so deep in thought, I only made it to the couch and I fell asleep there.
I was at Torch Lake, about to go tubing with my friend Cal. We were waiting for my sister, Scarlett, and her friend to finish. Once they finished, they got off the tubes and we got on. We put the thumbs up to my my dad, and we were off.

Oh my god, this is going to be so much fun. I am so very happy my family went on this trip, I thought as we reached about 20 mph. We kept our thumbs up until we got to about 30 mph, then Cal kept his thumb up but I had to hold on or else I would fall off.

Once I got comfortable going fast, I made a circle with my hand. This means do a donut, which is going around in a circle so that you can get big air and big waves. I flew right off the first time I hit a wave, my nickname is butterfingers for that because I always fall off.

I got back on the tube and before we went again, I yelled," Dad, we want death circles!". Death circles are donuts about 8 times in a row. “OK!”, my dad yelled back. We kept our thumbs up until about 40 mph, then, the death circles.

“ AHHHH!”, we were both yelling as we went over the biggest waves ever. “We’re gonna die!”, we both screamed as we went over even bigger waves than before. I gasped as I saw an 8 foot high wave, ready to take me down.

I thought I was going to die. I went in and held on for dear life. I came out still holding on, with a huge smile on my face. Everyone cheered," Woohoooo Jack!", I was so happy. It was time to get off, but I was fine with that. I was so glad my family went on this trip and that my friends were there. I had so much fun!

We were all getting hungry, so we drove the boat to Dockside, a restaurant right on the lake. Later that night we sat around the campfire talking about our favorite thing we did that day. “Jack, what was yours?”, my dad asked. “Going through that huge wave today,” I said. Everyone agreed that was the biggest wave and best wave of the day. “Tomorrow I want to try for an even bigger wave.”.

Jack