Thesis

Verbs of Analysis

Statement of enumeration matching with topic sentences

Dragon Boat High

Sir Douglas Haig was a World War I General whose actions prompted the injuries and deaths of more than four hundred thousand Canadian Corps soldiers. Today, Haig is the eponym for Earl Haig Secondary School, however, the school should not honor such a disgraceful person. Instead, Earl Haig should be renamed Dragon Boat High. This name would be a positive influence on students by encouraging them to be athletic, dedicated, and unified.

Members of the Dragon Boat team are notorious for being in excellent physical shape, which would inspire other students to become active as well. A typical Dragon Boat practice includes stair climbing, paddling, and aerobic exercises, which are all activities that greatly improve cardiovascular strength. Since Dragon Boat members regularly participate in these physically demanding practices, they are able-bodied and fit. Therefore, a school named Dragon Boat High would represent the athleticism of the team’s members. This name would lead other students at the school to engage in physical activity because they would want to fit in with the new brand driver of the school: healthy living. As a result, students at Dragon Boat High would participate in consistent exercise and would become healthier.

Dragon Boat’s busy schedule calls for members who are dedicated and committed, which would encourage other students to work harder and become as disciplined as a Dragon Boat team member. Every week, Dragon Boat has three practices that are each two hours long. The team’s regattas last multiple days of the weekend, and members must commute to various locations - including Richmond Hill and Pickering - for practices. Many Dragon Boat members also exercise individually in order to stay as fit as possible, and each member is expected to consistently attend practices. Not only do the team members balance their academic schedules with Dragon Boat practices and races, but they also work efficiently and effectively in order to manage their time. All of these components demonstrate the devotion Dragon Boat members have for the team as well as their outstanding discipline. If the school was renamed Dragon Boat High, it would reflect a school with dedicated and hardworking students. This would inspire other students to conform with this reputation and would push them to become more diligent.

Dragon Boat creates a sense of unity amongst team members, which would help unify the student body of the school. Members of the team often do activities outside of practice together and all of the time they spend with each other allows them to make many memories. During practices, they push and encourage each other to do their best, developing supportive friendships. They become bonded as a team, as they consistently have to practice synchronization and teamwork. The team members regard one another as family, and no one is excluded or left feeling like an outsider. Renaming the school to Dragon Boat High would express the strong relationships amongst Dragon Boat members, and would represent the school as being one in which the students are united. This would foster a sense of community within the school and allow students to become closer and to become friends with each other.

If Earl Haig Secondary School was renamed Dragon Boat High, then the school would go from saluting a dishonorable General to promoting student health and wellness. The new name would establish a useful brand driver for the school: active living. Rather than promoting a specific person, the school would promote a physical activity. This would allow Dragon Boat High to stand out amongst all other secondary schools and advertise a positive reputation for its students to follow.

Work Cited

HistoryNet. (2017). *Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig: World War I's Worst General | HistoryNet*. [online] Available at: http://www.historynet.com/field-marshal-sir-douglas-haig-world-war-is-worst-general.htm [Accessed 8 Dec. 2017].

Rename​ ​the​ ​School​ ​Essay

General​ ​Douglas​ ​Haig​ ​also​ ​known​ ​as​ ​the​ ​1st​ ​Earl​ ​Haig​ ​was​ ​a​ ​British​ ​World​ ​War​ ​1 general​ ​who​ ​lead​ ​allied​ ​forces​ ​into​ ​the​ ​bloody​ ​battles​ ​of​ ​the​ ​Somme​ ​and​ ​Passchendaele. Earl​ ​Haig​ ​Secondary​ ​School​ ​was​ ​established​ ​in​ ​1928​ ​and​ ​was​ ​named​ ​to​ ​commemorate​ ​the general’s​ ​accomplishments​ ​following​ ​his​ ​death.​ ​Years​ ​later​ ​however,​ ​the​ ​school’s​ ​community learned​ ​about​ ​Earl​ ​Haig’s​ ​reckless​ ​war​ ​tactics​ ​that​ ​sent​ ​many​ ​young​ ​men​ ​to​ ​their​ ​deaths​ ​and they​ ​petitioned​ ​to​ ​change​ ​the​ ​school’s​ ​name.​ ​Toronto​ ​natives​ ​Geddy​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Alex​ ​Lifeson​ ​of the​ ​rock​ ​band​ ​“Rush”​ ​are​ ​world​ ​renowned​ ​musicians​ ​whose​ ​work​ ​has​ ​earned​ ​them​ ​millions of​ ​record​ ​sales​ ​and​ ​a​ ​dedicated​ ​art​ ​park.​ ​Lee​ ​Lifeson​ ​Secondary​ ​School​ ​would​ ​be​ ​the​ ​ideal new​ ​name​ ​for​ ​Earl​ ​Haig​ ​Secondary​ ​School​ ​because​ ​they​ ​are​ ​​ ​talented,​ ​humble, and​ ​charitable.

Geddy​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Alex​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​musical​ ​prowess​ ​and​ ​success​ ​as​ ​artists​ ​reflect​ ​Earl Haig​ ​Secondary​ ​School’s​ ​passion​ ​for​ ​artistic​ ​excellence.​ ​Their​ ​musical​ ​abilities​ ​lead​ ​to​ ​Rush being​ ​third​ ​in​ ​most​ ​consecutive​ ​gold​ ​or​ ​platinum​ ​albums​ ​only​ ​behind​ ​the​ ​legendary​ ​Beatles and​ ​Rolling​ ​Stones.​ ​The​ ​sheer​ ​amount​ ​of​ ​consecutive​ ​gold​ ​and​ ​platinum​ ​albums​ ​highlights Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​musical​ ​talent​ ​and​ ​longevity​ ​as​ ​they​ ​were​ ​able​ ​to​ ​have​ ​sustained​ ​success to​ ​the​ ​likes​ ​of​ ​the​ ​Beatles​ ​and​ ​Rolling​ ​Stones.​ ​In​ ​addition,​ ​Geddy​ ​Lee​ ​is​ ​often​ ​regarded​ ​as one​ ​of​ ​the​ ​best​ ​bassists​ ​of​ ​all​ ​time​ ​while​ ​Alex​ ​Lifeson​ ​is​ ​widely​ ​considered​ ​one​ ​of​ ​the​ ​most underrated​ ​guitarists​ ​by​ ​rock​ ​communities​ ​and​ ​news​ ​columns.​ ​Their​ ​musical​ ​reputation​ ​of composing​ ​complex​ ​melodies​ ​and​ ​meaningful​ ​lyrics​ ​reinforces​ ​their​ ​artistic​ ​capabilities​ ​and ability​ ​to​ ​establish​ ​a​ ​unique​ ​artistic​ ​identity.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​creative​ ​and​ ​recognizable artistic​ ​identity​ ​would​ ​serve​ ​as​ ​inspiration​ ​for​ ​artists​ ​in​ ​the​ ​Claude​ ​Watson​ ​program​ ​looking​ ​to communicate​ ​their​ ​unique​ ​ideas​ ​and​ ​voice​ ​to​ ​the​ ​world​ ​through​ ​art​ ​much​ ​like​ ​Rush​ ​did​ ​with their​ ​innovative​ ​music.

Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​humble​ ​and​ ​respectful​ ​persona​ ​make​ ​them​ ​exceptional​ ​role models​ ​for​ ​building​ ​positive​ ​student​ ​character​ ​traits.​ ​Back​ ​in​ ​the​ ​early​ ​70’s​ ​Rush​ ​opened​ ​for the​ ​popular​ ​rock​ ​band​ ​“Kiss”​ ​who​ ​were​ ​notorious​ ​for​ ​epitomizing​ ​the​ ​“drugs,​ ​sex​ ​and​ ​rock and​ ​roll”​ ​stereotype.​ ​In​ ​an​ ​interview​ ​with​ ​lead​ ​singer​ ​of​ ​Kiss​ ​Gene​ ​Simmons,​ ​he​ ​noted​ ​that Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson​ ​never​ ​had​ ​affairs​ ​with​ ​women​ ​after​ ​the​ ​shows​ ​like​ ​many​ ​other​ ​rock​ ​bands did.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​lack​ ​of​ ​affairs​ ​exemplifies​ ​their​ ​humble​ ​attitude​ ​despite​ ​being​ ​in​ ​a​ ​rock band​ ​where​ ​fame​ ​can​ ​often​ ​make​ ​people​ ​arrogant​ ​and​ ​obsessed​ ​with​ ​the​ ​drugs,​ ​sex​ ​and partying​ ​lifestyle.​ ​Despite​ ​having​ ​women​ ​knocking​ ​on​ ​their​ ​door,​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson​ ​were respectful​ ​and​ ​opted​ ​to​ ​not​ ​manipulate​ ​women​ ​and​ ​have​ ​affairs.​ ​Their​ ​modest​ ​and​ ​gracious personalities​ ​have​ ​persisted​ ​through​ ​the​ ​years​ ​and​ ​have​ ​been​ ​documented​ ​by​ ​many​ ​other bands​ ​who​ ​often​ ​refer​ ​to​ ​them​ ​as​ ​“nice​ ​Canadian​ ​boys”.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​modest​ ​and respectful​ ​behaviour​ ​would​ ​coincide​ ​with​ ​what​ ​the​ ​TDSB​ ​values​ ​as​ ​positive​ ​character​ ​traits making​ ​them​ ​an​ ​ideal​ ​role​ ​model​ ​for​ ​building​ ​student​ ​character.

Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s​ ​charity​ ​work​ ​parallels​ ​Earl​ ​Haig​ ​Secondary​ ​School’s​ ​charitable events​ ​and​ ​promotes​ ​further​ ​acts​ ​of​ ​giving​ ​and​ ​generosity.​ ​For​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson,​ ​acts​ ​of charity​ ​were​ ​common​ ​from​ ​the​ ​band’s​ ​birth​ ​as​ ​they​ ​supported​ ​the​ ​Toronto​ ​Food​ ​Bank​ ​since the​ ​70s​ ​and​ ​played​ ​shows​ ​where​ ​all​ ​proceeds​ ​went​ ​to​ ​United​ ​Way​ ​or​ ​AIDS​ ​research. Throughout​ ​their​ ​career,​ ​they​ ​have​ ​donated​ ​to​ ​numerous​ ​projects​ ​such​ ​as​ ​Doctors​ ​Without Borders​ ​and​ ​the​ ​Alberta​ ​Flood​ ​Relief.​ ​Despite​ ​all​ ​of​ ​the​ ​time​ ​and​ ​money​ ​Rush​ ​has​ ​put towards​ ​charity,​ ​much​ ​of​ ​their​ ​work​ ​goes​ ​unnoticed​ ​as​ ​they​ ​prefer​ ​not​ ​to​ ​publicize​ ​their donations.​ ​This​ ​passion​ ​to​ ​quietly​ ​support​ ​charities​ ​supports​ ​their​ ​modest​ ​and​ ​humble behaviour​ ​and​ ​reveals​ ​their​ ​desire​ ​to​ ​give​ ​back​ ​to​ ​the​ ​less​ ​privileged.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s charitable​ ​acts​ ​reflect​ ​Earl​ ​Haig​ ​Secondary​ ​School’s​ ​variety​ ​of​ ​clubs​ ​such​ ​as​ ​United​ ​Way​ ​and Outreach​ ​that​ ​look​ ​to​ ​strengthen​ ​communities​ ​through​ ​charitable​ ​acts.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson’s charity​ ​work​ ​has​ ​strengthened​ ​communities​ ​around​ ​the​ ​world​ ​as​ ​well​ ​as​ ​their​ ​hometown​ ​of Toronto​ ​so​ ​it​ ​would​ ​only​ ​be​ ​fitting​ ​if​ ​Toronto​ ​would​ ​repay​ ​them​ ​through​ ​renaming​ ​a​ ​school​ ​in their​ ​honor.

Rush​ ​has​ ​always​ ​been​ ​appreciated​ ​by​ ​others​ ​in​ ​the​ ​music​ ​industry​ ​but​ ​never​ ​by​ ​the mainstream​ ​media​ ​possibly​ ​due​ ​to​ ​their​ ​seemingly​ ​normal​ ​personalities.​ ​Lee​ ​and​ ​Lifeson were​ ​always​ ​the​ ​type​ ​of​ ​people​ ​who​ ​took​ ​every​ ​opportunity​ ​to​ ​give​ ​back​ ​to​ ​the​ ​people​ ​who helped​ ​them​ ​on​ ​their​ ​journey​ ​to​ ​musical​ ​immortality.​ ​Rush​ ​will​ ​forever​ ​be​ ​underappreciated​ ​in rock​ ​history​ ​but​ ​they​ ​still​ ​strived​ ​for​ ​musical​ ​excellence,​ ​honesty,​ ​and​ ​kindness​ ​towards​ ​their fans​ ​and​ ​everyone​ ​along​ ​the​ ​way.​ ​How​ ​Canadian.

Title.

Earl Haig Secondary School is one of Toronto’s best ranking high schools, yet it is

named after one of Canada’s worst generals. General Douglas Haig was responsible for leading

millions of soldiers to their deaths during World War I. Therefore, it is not fitting for one of the

city’s greatest schools to be named after an incompetent general. Instead, Earl Haig Secondary

School should be named after Leonard Cohen, a famous Canadian musician. It is appropriate to

rename the school after Cohen because he represents its renowned music program, its many

extracurriculars and its diverse student population.

It is fitting that Earl Haig Secondary School renames itself after one of the country’s most

famous musicians because the school offers a music program to its students. Leonard Cohen

was a songwriter, singer, poet, and novelist who was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of

Fame in 1991. His successful music career reflects Earl Haig’s successful music program as

the school consistently earns first place in the Kiwanis Music Festival every year.

Not only would Cohen represent the school’s music program, he would also represent its

large number of student-run clubs and councils. When Cohen attended high school he joined

the Yearbook Staff, the Cheerleading Team, the Theatre Program and the Student Council.

Renaming Earl Haig Secondary School after Leonard Cohen would highlight the extensive

extracurricular programs the school offers to its students as Cohen was involved with many

clubs when he was a high school student.

Finally, Cohen would represent Earl Haig Secondary School’s diverse student body

because of his religious background. Cohen was born into a Jewish family and described

himself as a Sabbath-observant Jew, but he also practiced Buddhism and was ordained a

Buddhist monk. Cohen’s unique background exemplifies the diverse religions and cultures

found among the students of Earl Haig Secondary School. Naming the school after Cohen

would help students of all races, religions and cultures feel accepted among their peers and

their community.

Renaming Earl Haig Secondary School to Leonard Cohen High can have numerous

positive effects: it can inspire students to pursue a successful career in their respective artistic

disciplines, it can inspire students to participate in extracurriculars and find their passion outside

of the classroom, and it can help students from different backgrounds feel comfortable with their

heritage. More importantly, the school will no longer be named after a cork-nut like General

Douglas Haig.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leonard\_Cohen

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douglas\_Haig,\_1st\_Earl\_Haig