

Scholarship Essay Topic

Student Name: _____

X

Here's your chance to win a college scholarship! Write a two-page (500-word) essay responding to the following quote and questions:

From Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*:

*Thou know'st that all my fortunes are at sea;
Neither have I money nor commodity
To raise a present sum; therefore go forth,
Try what my credit can in Venice do;
That shall be rack'd, even to the uttermost,
To furnish thee to Belmont to fair Portia.
Go presently inquire, and so will I,
Where money is; and I no question make
To have it of my trust or for my sake.*

In Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, Antonio, a Venetian merchant, is asked by his friend Bassanio for a loan of 3,000 ducats to travel to Belmont to court the beautiful heiress Portia. Antonio agrees, but says that Bassanio must borrow the money from one of the city's moneylenders because all his ships are at sea.

It's 2004. Your friend Bassanio needs \$3,000 to pay for his freshman year at Belmont University. In a two-page essay, explain the following to Bassanio:

- What financial management tools are available (e.g., credit cards, checking accounts, scholarships, work study)
- How a credit card can be used responsibly
- How to be responsible with money management during the first year of college, including an outline of expenses that Bassanio should expect

Enter:

Students in grades 11 and 12 should send essays by 4/26/04 to:
Scholarship Contest,
c/o Scholastic Inc., P.O. Box 711,
New York, NY 10013-0711.
Include Your Name, Grade, Gender,
School Name, Teacher/Guidance
Counselor Name, Home Address,
School Phone, Home Phone.

YOU MAY WIN		
<p>Two (2) grand-prize winners</p> <p>will each receive</p> <p>\$15,000</p> <p>savings bond for college tuition</p>	<p>Five (5) second-prize winners</p> <p>will each receive</p> <p>\$700</p> <p>savings bond for college textbooks</p>	<p>Ten (10) third-prize winners</p> <p>will each receive</p> <p>\$200</p> <p>savings bond for decorating a college dorm and/or college supplies</p>
<p>PLUS, educators can win up to \$2,500 toward further education!</p>		

No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited.