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Ready Player One Essay

High school English classes should include more interesting and relatable books into their curriculum. English classes have become very redundant and boring to many high school students across the state. Ready Player One is a book about a boy named Wade Watts who is partaking in a competition to win James Halliday's, the creator of the OASIS, fortune. So, Ready Player One would be a very great way to relate to students and to make up for all of the more out of date books that students have read.

For example, in the book by Ernest Cline, the characters show that they have insecurities of their own, "I created the OASIS because I never felt at home in the real world. I didn't know how to connect with the people there. I was afraid, for all of my life, right up until I knew it was ending." James Halliday (Cline 364). The character James Halliday created the virtual game known as OASIS and it allowed people across the globe escape from reality and join many others inside the game, which many students today feel exactly like that, helpless and afraid, and they have nowhere else to go but into a book or play video games with people online. Also, some students feel like how Halliday feels every day at home, whether it was because their parents were always gone for work or even negligence. To close, students feel like they are helpless but with this book they can relate to lots of the characters who just try to get away from the real world because they are also afraid.

Another example is students being scared of their peers because of what they look like or how they act, “I designed my avatar’s face and body to look, more or less, like my own. My avatar had a slightly smaller nose than me, and he was taller. And thinner. And more muscular. And he didn’t have any teenage acne. But aside from these minor details, we looked more or less identical.” Wade Watts a.k.a. Parzival (Cline 28). Wade created his character to look like a better him, even if he says he did not but it is true, so he makes his character look bigger and more handsome than him in the real world, creating a type of mask to hide the true him. Teenagers of today are very insecure about their bodies, whether it is because of their weight or even something natural like face acne. Teens like Wade would normally create characters in video games to look perfect because they are scared someone will make fun of them or bully them because what they look like. This part in the book can really make an impact on some students because they can relate to it so well and they might be able to come out of their shells.

Finally, this quote from James Halliday represents how students can realize that pretending that they are what they’re not is not beneficial and they should be themselves, “That was when I realized, as terrifying and painful as reality can be, it’s also the only place where you can find true happiness. Because reality is real.” James Halliday (Cline 364). Halliday explains that hiding from reality is not healthy and that the only way for someone to come out of it is to realize that the real world is exactly what it is, real. Students can relate to this most of all because many hide behind screens and believe that they are safe behind the screens of computers, but it is just a means for escaping the harsh reality known as the real world. To finish, students try to escape from reality on a daily basis and if this book was in the schools English classes, then they would be able to really relate to the characters and potentially find some help for their own situations.

Concluding, high school English classes across the country should consider adding Ready Player One into the curriculum for the sake of the students being able to find a better connection to the books.

Students should be able to relate to the book in the way that they can relate to their best friend, and should not feel as though they are reading the book for no reason and just for the sake of a good grade. For these reasons is why the book Ready Player One should be read in high school English Classes.