

Our Town Summer Assignment

Directions: Answer ONE of the following questions in an essay of *at least* TWO full pages (typed). Be sure to use specific evidence from the play to back up your claims.

1. In light of the fact that human beings are powerless to fight the advance of time, Thornton Wilder ponders whether we truly appreciate the precious nature of our transient life.

Explain how this is explicitly demonstrated *throughout* the play, and what Wilder's conclusion seems to be, using specific evidence from the play to support your claims.

2. Though romance is prominent in Our Town, it is merely the most vivid example of a wide range of bonds that human beings can forge.

Discuss the nature and significance of the relationships the author presents in the play. Be sure to use specific examples to support your analysis.

*This essay is due on the first day of school in September. Be prepared to discuss the play as we begin the school year.