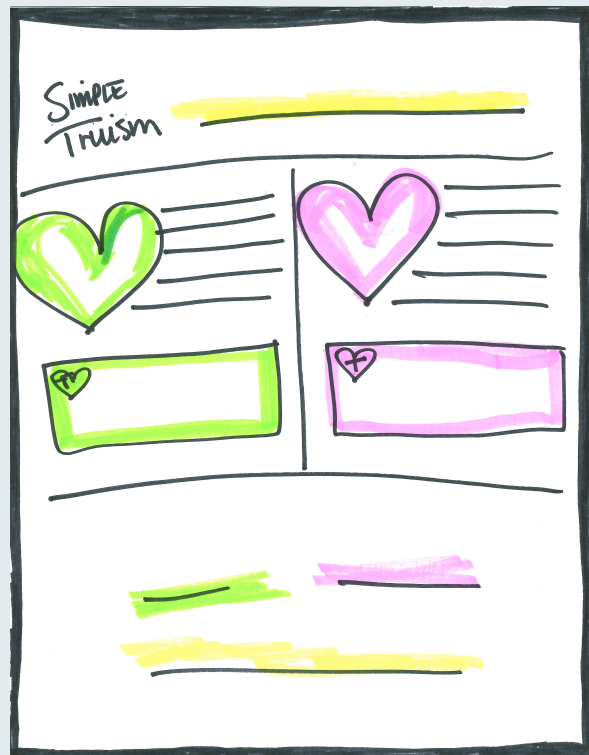


Steps for the Truism Braid Essay

1. Start with a simple truism at the top.
2. In the green (left) heart, write a title of a book or movie you love.
3. Next to the heart, explain how that title illustrates your truism.
4. In the green (left) box, write a heart truism, telling a specific truism that relates to that character's situation.
5. Switch sides.
6. In the pink (right) heart, write the title of another book or movie you love.
7. Next to that heart, explain how that title illustrates your truism.
8. In the pink (right) box, write a heart truism, telling a specific truism that relates to this character's situation.
9. For the conclusion, add together the simple truism on top and phrases from your heart truisms.



See examples below.

See the simple truism at the top.

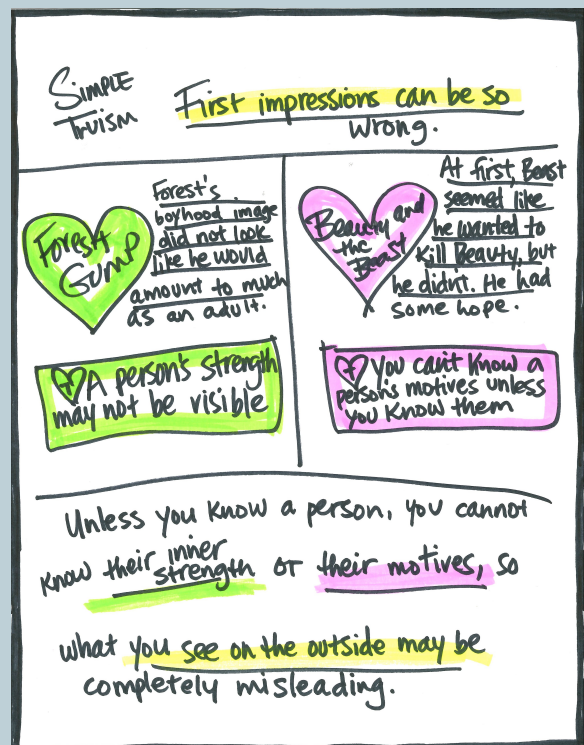
Green (left) heart: *Forrest Gump*.

Pink (right) heart: *Beauty and the Beast*.

Read the short explanations for each.

Heart truisms: Notice how the green (left) and pink (right) heart truisms are related but different from the simple truism at the top.

See how a phrase from each of the heart truisms is added to the yellow truism to make an improved conclusion.



Finished example #1
decoded

Everyone has gone through the difficulty of keeping and making promises. The promises you make are the ones you have to keep close to your heart. Although keeping a promise may seem difficult, the outcome of keeping a promise might give you something quite lovely and pleasing in return.

A simple promise can be distinguished between two friends or perhaps two loved ones. Either it's keeping something between others or promising one to make a huge impact, it'll bring them far in life. In the movie *Up*, Carl promises Elle, his deceased wife, that he'll do anything it takes to get to Paradise Falls. With lots of dedication and patience during his quest, he arrives at Paradise Falls with the thought of Elle in his mind. As he arrived, he sees the beautiful waterfall gushing and spewing water as the gray rough rocks surrounded the peaceful waves. The remarkable journey surely brought him far in his life as the promise wielded love and happiness.

Fortunately for Hamilton, Laurens, Lafayette, and Mulligan, the promise they made brought them victory. In the Broadway Musical, *Hamilton* and the rest of the abolitionists promised to fight in the war against the British forces, even if it meant sacrificing themselves. With the hard work and determination, they won the battle of Yorktown against the British troops. In the end, their promise brought them victory as they celebrated their victories against Britain.

In the end, their promises led them far in their life with many great outcomes. Sometimes the promises you keep that contain love and determination will bring you beneficial things such as victories or completion of goals that will bring you very far in life.

Kimberlie Gonzalez, grade 7

Finished example #2
decoded

Everyone has problems in life, whether they are very insignificant or terrifyingly dismal. In turn, we all strive to solve these crises by reaching for something better. We hope and dream for these brighter futures to come true, and fight as hard as we can to make them happen. These dreams are also known as our goals, and they help us see the world from a better perspective.

Even great historical figures faced hardships that required them to make goals for their future. Take Martin Luther King Junior for example. He grew up in a world that was not only unfair but also unjust. However, instead of getting discouraged, he saw his difficulties as opportunities to change his life and the lives of those around him. He dreamed for a better future and made it come true.

Another awe-inspiring historical figure is Harriet Tubman. As a child, she was raised into a life of slavery that she was told was inevitable. However, instead of accepting her fate, she found a way to free hundreds of slaves including herself, and lead them to a life where they could have a hope and a future. She fought for her own dream, and never stopped hoping for a life where she could be free.

The world will always be there to weigh you down. There will always be another hardship. Just around the corner. Most people believe that there is no way to change that. However, the few that hope for something better and are willing to fight for it are the few that can accomplish any goal that they wish to see happen.