

Tuesdays with Morrie Essay Test

Part 1 -- Quotation

Explain one of the following quotations and apply it to your own life.

“Mostly, my thanks to Morrie, for wanting to do this last thesis together.”

“A funeral was held in lieu of graduation.”

“... When he smiles it’s as if you’d just told him the first joke on earth.”

“I didn’t want to forget him. Maybe I didn’t want him to forget me.”

“When he steps back, I see that he is crying”.

Part 2 -- Essays

Choose 3 of the following questions and answer them with well-written paragraphs.

1. What are Morrie's religious values? Does he steep himself in the theology of one religion, or many?
2. How does Morrie's dislike of the media's role in popular culture contradict his willingness to be interviewed by Ted Koppel for the television program *Nightline*?
3. How has Morrie's childhood affected his behavior as an adult? Explain how each of his family members, including his mother, father, stepmother, and younger brother, have affected his development.

4. What reasons does Morrie give for rejecting the mores prescribed by the popular culture. How has he created his own culture, and what values does it consist of?
5. How does Morrie rationalize his thoughts that aging is growth, and not decay, as most people see it?
6. Explain Morrie's relationship with Ted Koppel. What does Morrie see in Koppel that others fail to?
7. Who inspired Morrie's passion for books and education? What inspired his passion for people? Why did he decide to become a professor of sociology?