That Was Then, This Is Now Essay Test

Part 5 -- Essay: Please choose ONE question and write a three paragraph response.

1. At one point in the book, Mark says to Bryon, “That was then, this is now.” Explain why this quotation was used as the title of the book, using details and examples from the text to support your answer. Include how this title relates to the theme.

2. Every character in a story helps to move the plot forward. Select a character from the novel and discuss his/her role in the development of the story. Analyze and explain the impact this character has on others, and why the author included this person.

3. The author wants readers to think about personal integrity and making choices. Explain how these ideas unfold throughout the story, using examples from two or more characters.

4. According to S. E. Hinton, many readers of That Was Then, This Is Now have written to tell her that after reading the book, they “threw it against the wall.” Did you have a similar reaction? In your opinion, does the ending of the novel ring true? Write an essay discussing your reaction to the novel’s resolution (or lack thereof).

5. Explain how this novel fits into the unit of Interpersonal Relationships.