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English 390

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“Do You Feel Lucky, Punk?” –Clint Eastwood

Hook: I was born on March 15, 1976; am I lucky? Is luck dependent upon demographics such as a birthdate? **Source Introduction:** Malcom Gladwell tackles this question in chapters two and five in his novel *Outliers*. Similarly, Jean Anyon, author of *Learning Power* details the teachings of different social classes, which implies a measure of what Gladwell calls “demographic luck.” With this small sample of people/students, it is hard to say how much of a role “demographic luck” plays in a person’s success. **Thesis:** Although demographics may play a large role in determining one’s success, individuals have the capacity to break free from their demographics and by sheer determination and will power, become just as successful as the demographically lucky.

Body Paragraph 1: Summary of Gladwell and Anyon’s ideas about demographic luck

Body Paragraph 2: Choose a particular point made by the authors and enter the conversation. Argue why you think “demographic luck” is not the end all be all to success.

Body Paragraph 3: Choose another point made by the authors and enter the conversation. Argue why you think “demographic luck” is not the end all be all to success.