

Score Report

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Student Choice Argumentative

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for Grade 7A - Bevear

Use this prompt to write an argumentative essay of your choice.

The Mystery of Harold Holt

Did you know that there was an Australian Prime minister called Harold Holt who went missing and was never found? On December 17th 1967, Holt was with three friends and two bodyguards. All five of them went to Cheviot beach and Harold decided to swim by himself. The bodyguards kept an eye on Holt and soon they lost sight of him. From my point of view, Holt committed suicide because of depression. Alternatively, some people have suggested that he might also have gotten picked up from a Chinese submarine and sent to China.

The first theory is Harold Holt might have committed suicide. To support this idea, in November 2007, Doug Anthony spoke that Holt was depressed before his death. As a matter of fact, in October 23rd 2008 there was a broadcast saying that Holt was suffering from a shoulder pain and the doctor advised him not to swim. In addition, back in 1967, some people thought that Holt purposely committed suicide, but his son, his biographer Tom Frame and his colleague Malcolm Fraser said that is not the case. Lastly, there was a question from the citizens about why a skilled swimmer would try to drown himself.

The second theory is that Holt got picked up from a Chinese submarine and was brought back to China. In 1983, Anthony Grey, a British journalist published a book saying that Holt had been an agent for the People's Republic of China. He claimed that Holt was picked up by a submarine and was taken

back to China. Some people think this could happen because his corpse was never found.

Regarding these two theories, I would prefer the first theory that Holt committed suicide. I prefer the first theory because in the article, Doug Anthony, a fellow minister, mentioned that Holt was going through some depression before his death. Furthermore, a broadcast mentioned that Holt was going through some physical issues like his shoulder injury. Therefore, the doctor advised him not to swim. In view of these reasons, I think that there might be a bigger chance that Holt committed suicide. Holt might have been really depressed and sad about something in his life. I consider this to be more likely than him being taken by the Chinese because there is no new evidence that has come up to support this idea.

In conclusion, this mystery is so popular since it was an Australian Prime minister that vanished when he was swimming. About this mystery, there were lots of different and weird theories about Holt's disappearance. If I could travel back in time and find out something in order to solve the mystery, I would interview the people who last saw him and ask them questions. For example, before losing sight of him what was his attitude? Was he feeling cantankerous or was he feeling depressed? I would also want to ask them how they saw him disappear. Did he slowly disappeared or did he suddenly vanished? In any case, this mystery might or might not be solved because in the end who can ever know if someone is actually telling the truth? Unless they find his body or it will always remain a mystery.

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Scores

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The essay was scored by PEG, the automated essay scorer, according to the scoring standard for your level. Any trait score below 3 shows a need to strengthen skills in that category.

Trait Scores 444445 Development of Ideas Organization Style Word
Choice Sentence Structure Conventions 012345
