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## Book Report Example

### In Contempt Book Report

Book Written by Chris Darden

This report is based upon the book *In Contempt*, written by Christopher A. Darden with Jess Walter. This book is published by Regan Books an imprint of Harper Collins Publishers and is copyrighted 1996 by Christopher A. Darden.

#### Introduction of the Author

The book *In Contempt* was written by Christopher A. Darden. Chris Darden is famous for being one of the prosecuting attorneys in the court case *The People vs. Simpson*. He has worked hard his whole life to reach the status he has now achieved. He proved to America that even though he wasn't a high-priced private lawyer that he could present a well-thought out and planned case under the tremendous pressure he and the other prosecutors had to endure during the Simpson case.

#### Summary

I found this book to be very well thought out and well written. Most people would assume that this book was written with the intentions of making a quick-buck off the misfortune of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman. I, however, do not believe this to be true. The way that the author speaks of the victims in the book and the way he spoke of them before and after the trial shows that he really cared about the lives of these people that he didn't even know. He even went as far as to say in the book that this was the first case that affected him personally and emotionally.

As one may expect, the majority of this book is taken up with the Simpson case. Chapters two through six detail his life from birth, his childhood in a working class district of Richmond, California and his becoming a district attorney of Los Angeles in 1981. Chapters two and three mostly consist of stories of him and his brother, Michael, stealing from local stores or his brothers' drug deals. When Michael hit his mid-teens he started selling marijuana off the front porch of the house and Chris was his lookout. In return, he was told that he would be cut in on the action but never was. No matter what, Michael always told Chris never to use drugs. Throughout the book Chris Darden refers to his brother as a good role model for him no matter what he did.

I feel the purpose of Chris Darden writing this book is to try to show the hardships he had to go through as a black man trying to become a lawyer. Also I feel that he is trying to reveal the truth behind what was happening in the Simpson case.

#### Body of the Review

This book is funny and at other times the mood is more serious. The few chapters in the beginning were the funny ones. In these chapters he writes about his childhood and works his

#### Information/Data

The following material is based on a review of performance appraisal forms. It is designed to assist in creating, modifying or auditing performance appraisal forms. The material presented is initially divided into common divisions or segments that appear on many performance appraisal forms. Listed under each of the common parts or segments are checklists of typical information, examples of material and samples demonstrating typical verbiage.

#### The basic segments are:

- Information/data.
- Directions/definitions.
- Job factors/ratings/weights.
- Overall ratings.
- Employee assessment.
- Future objectives/actions.
- Summary.
- Employee comments.
- Signatures.
- Additional management and human resources review and comments.

These segments do not have to occur in the order listed.

Typically, the forms encourage the employee and the rater to use attachments if necessary to fully answer narrative questions. For administrative purposes, there may be a check off in a prominent position on the form to indicate that there are attachments. Additionally, there is a growing trend to include in the performance appraisal input from additional raters --peers, team members, other supervisors or leaders and customers.

#### Information/Data

This section of the form contains identifying information. That information may include:

- Employee's name
- Employee number

### Developing Performance Appraisal Forms

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#### Overview

Statistically, air travel is reasonably safe when compared with road, rail and sea. Many countries have a high death and injury rate on the roads; train, ferry and ocean-going ship disasters are regular enough to be commonplace, taking a global view, yet air disasters are usually fatal to all or most concerned and are therefore more widely reported. Consequently there is international pressure to make air travel as safe as possible, and rightly so. Yet no form of travel can be made totally safe. The causes of disaster, whether natural or man-made, can never be completely eliminated.

#### Is air travel as safe as it should be ?

Statistically, air travel is reasonably safe when compared with road, rail and sea. Many countries have a high death and injury rate on the roads; train, ferry and ocean-going ship disasters are regular enough to be commonplace, taking a global view, yet air disasters are usually fatal to all or most concerned and are therefore more widely reported. Consequently there is international pressure to make air travel as safe as possible, and rightly so. Yet no form of travel can be made totally safe. The causes of disaster, whether natural or man-made, can never be completely eliminated.

Looking first at natural causes, at least three can be identified. Bad weather is one. This includes storm, icing and air-pockets in the case of light aircraft; less so in the case of large jets with sophisticated instrumentation. One cause in the case of jets can be large flocks of birds or swarms of insects being sucked into the jet nacelles and thereby stopping the engines. This may happen at low altitudes. Little can be done to prevent this. A third is the alleged danger in what is known as the "Bermuda triangle" in which both ships and aircraft have been lost without trace. In the case of aircraft, the reason is thought to be loss of horizon due to electrical disturbance.

Most dangers to aircraft however are man-made. The first and obvious danger is collision. In the busiest airports, especially in the busiest seasons, aircraft may take off as often as every twenty seconds. Much strain is imposed on aircraft dispatchers and traffic control generally. Clearance for dispatch is by radar and computer. Personal fatigue or mechanical failure in a radar center can be very dangerous. Aircraft often have to circle before being given landing permission, and collision or perhaps a near miss can result from mistakes in assigning heights. Most, though not all countries have strict regulations governing air traffic control. Any strike by operatives will cause grounding -- bad enough, but preferable to taking risks.

Another cause of trouble may be the age of the aircraft. Metal fatigue eventually sets in, cracks appear, bits of aircraft may fall out. In the busiest seasons, or the passenger cabin may lose compression. This means almost certain death to all passengers and crew, and there have been cases where an aircraft has been lost because one of the doors was not properly secured. The import of safety checks before take-off is obvious. So also is the importance of regular and completely efficient servicing. Operatives' licenses can be withdrawn if government inspectors find inefficiency in this area. Most modern aircraft can shut down engines which catch fire, deal automatically with the fire, and proceed on three, or even two engines.

Through them I had my mom help me get through the difficult times, she would always give me love and support. I am here to receive an education and to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in order for me to have a stable job that I will love doing. Although this satisfied the tastes and likings of my sibling, I couldn't help but despair over the changes to the recipes that I held so dear, despair over the compromise of our culture. I couldn't even fake a smile anymore. Sometimes it may become an excuse to never attempt a dream again. Even though I didn't welcome these changes to my dinners at first and feared the substitutes would produce a subpar dinner, I slowly found myself liking the alternatives more than the recipes. Eventually, I realized that I wasn't a failure. In 2016, my father had a stroke, which permanently disabled his ability to walk and speak. It has also shown me that I have the power to change my own life and determine who I could be in this vast world. I was a mess about this and just wanted total isolation. I feel cared for and motivated because of it. I slowly began to see that my mindset played a huge role in determining how much work I could get done and where I would be in two years. I had never been exposed to that level of poverty, and yet the babies and the toddlers were playing, laughing using rocks or a single action figure they had to share to create a fantasy, a game. I was also volunteering at Loma Linda Hospital on the weekends and singing at church on Sundays. As I got older, I started to get more interested in fashion and makeup, I was more inclined to go on social media to get ideas and inspiration from online influencers. Now, whenever someone asks me if I am really willing to undergo 14 more years of school—including residency and training—to become a surgeon, I say "absolutely, without a doubt." Hard work has not only been a tool for success, but it has also given me a sense of purpose for my life. I am in a place where I welcome the hurt and the pain because I understand that it is part of the healing process. In September of 2017 I had an experience that has made the last year very difficult for my family and I. I ran for a position in ASB, not once but twice. Still, she persisted I pour rice into the cooker without a measuring cup and my heart sank with disappointment as I watched the watery, soupy mess fall heavily into the trash can. At one point, I was fully consumed by the storm of my dark thoughts. I never let any opportunity go by. That there is always room for growth, always room for healing. I have been visiting Mexico almost every other weekend. I see a lot of poverty, mothers are seated on the ground in the hottest and coldest of temperatures, with their babies and toddlers on their laps, trying to sell gum for any spare change. It is true what they say, "it's the little things in life". What I would do to go back to a time where I could care less about what I was eating because it could affect the way my body looks. I wanted to make my parents proud, and I still do. I was viewing myself completely different than I really was, and just causing destruction inside of me. But I do want to share you my past experience because I do believe it's the reason why I hold my passions to live a successful life. However, the pallet of my younger brother, only appreciating the complexities of chicken nuggets and pizza slices, refused to eat our cultural family infused feast. I told myself to have a positive mindset and be patient, since I had seen the direct results of how well that played out in my life. The idea that if I am not okay or not happy in this moment but have the capacity to become happy and become okay in the future is a motivating force for healing. The burdens that I carried weighed me down like how an anchor holds down a boat. It's how I get to go outside my comfort zone every day. It is a bittersweet process, but I am thankful for it. Many have enjoyed writing and reading these essays ever since. My mom called me out and said, "why bother, your physically and mentally unathletic." Boy, I wanted to prove her wrong. Faith and hope motivated me to succeed in my education. While most outcomes result in heartbreak, it also reveals new characteristics of me. I was committed to winning, but the high school population was too overwhelming. Although I find the exact measurements of recipes comforting, I do my best to add a pinch of this and a dash of that in my meals every so often. I am good enough for society. Infatuations may end in disappointment. Even though they weren't here physically with me throughout the years, I still received support from my mom. It is usually my mother that notice my actions first, more than anyone. We were sleeping, then all of a sudden one of the ICE agents gets my sister and I dressed up and sends us to my aunt's house. I was out of my comfort zone. Literally and physically. Next time my mother wanted to recreate the dishes, she opted for the frozen potstickers from Trader Joe's with beef and American broccoli instead of cabbage and bok choy. I can recall experiences that consist of undesirable outcome and disappointment. I was cut from the team after the third day of try-outs. We asked GEL students and GEL alumni to share a belief in the form of an essay. Each morning I would wake up to only to prepare to endeavor the difficulties of my illnesses. I decided that it would be beneficial to remove all my social media accounts to see if I would feel more valuable. "Patience and Perseverance" by Erica Gershon I believe that nothing in this world is unattainable if an individual works hard to achieve his or her goals. Time flies by, I have somehow made it this far. Dedicating my life to helping patients will require a tremendous amount of sacrifice, self-control, and determination. I didn't understand anything that was going on. The GEL program has long been one that helps students take stock of themselves and find their way through social and moral landscapes. But without my mother's love, I wouldn't be who I am today, a first-generation college student. I had to first learn from myself to begin to let go of the dark and anxious thoughts that had plagued me. Only, it was attached to my mind, instead of my ankle or a ship. The word does not have to be involved romantically. I grew up loving myself like any other kid would with so much innocence and happiness when I would sink my teeth into my favorite foods. I am good enough to live a happy life. I also welcome laughter and new opportunities because I believe allowing myself to be paralyzed in unhappiness will

lose my self-worth, I am in the process of growth, and what I mean by that is I am "filling my cup until my cup runneth over" I am choosing to fill my cup with understanding. Through the process of loving myself, I have been able to help so many of my friends to do the same, and the glow I started to see within them made me feel so content. I take advantage of it, so when the next desire come, achievement might actually be a possibility. I wanted there to be a purpose for me being a first generation in the United States of America. The front-runner was no other than the popular girl on campus. I believe in loving myself. I have witnessed first-hand how much power perseverance has and how it can completely alter a person's lifestyle and mindset. But I choose not to because who would like to hear me complain about my past. It is a huge commitment to run for public service. I believe that when my dog lays on my chest, she is healing me; when I tuck my younger brother in, he is healing me; when I hug my parents, they are healing me; when I watch "While you were Sleeping" for the fifteenth time, it is healing me. "Sometimes, things won't be perfect," is what she told me, "and you just have to roll up your sleeves and realize that finding a different solution is the only way to save the dish." From then I started to see the compromises and solutions my mother would speak of, not just in the kitchen, but in her life around her. People were posting all the adventurous trips they were going on as well as the most thrilling parts of their day. I always thought that he just grabbed his stuff and left. The weight of the self-hatred and low self-esteem that I had made me feel like I was drowning. In the Bible, the verse Corinthians 13:13, states: "And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But I couldn't imagine myself getting out of my comfort zone again without being in this position. I believed that I was capable of working harder than usual to juggle my school life and my family life together. Taking back hope, taking back the unwavering belief that things will not always be bad. So, I came back to my passion for public service. When I was staring at the cold and harsh waves of Monterey Bay one night, I realized that I didn't want to drown. As time would pass that I wouldn't be checking my phone and wouldn't be comparing my body to others, I was loving myself more. Whether it was educating me on how to operate a pressure cooker, showing me the best ways to peel of the skin of garlic, or demonstrating the right way to steam potstickers in a wok, the resilience my mother had in passing down as much as she knew was admirable. Because of my faith, I never gave up on working hard in school. I believe that faith and hope are a beautiful thing. I had all my faith in God. I would pray that I could see my mom. Cheers to democracy. I remember one morning when I woke up and saw a stretch mark on the inside of my leg and I fell apart. I tried my best in school and I always stayed focused. During this time, I began to wonder what it would be like if I no longer existed. In eleventh grade, I finally came at peace that basketball will never be a reality, and I accept it. This would've been the best underdog story you've ever heard. I continued, adding fried eggs, bean sprouts, spinach and spam to the prepackaged ramen noodles that only called for powdered flavor packets, and even my roommates began to show interest towards the unorthodox combination. I would tell myself every night that I was never giving up. I didn't want to let them down. You can read or listen to tens of thousands of This I Believe essays at This I Believe.org. It's a word that describes admiration for a short period of time. I believe in loving myself because my body is constantly working to keep me alive and healthy. When I went away to college, my mother dutifully packed a freezer bag full of our pre-prepped food from home, and sitting on top of the frozen dishes were the Trader Joe's potstickers. But of course, my infatuation got the best of me and submitted my campaign to run for president. I long to heal and at times I feel like those steps towards healing are possible because I believe in hope, and that hope is part of healing. When someone tells you, "I hope you do good," or "I hope everything will be ok for you.", that in my opinion, is the best feeling. All of a sudden, I remembered all of the people in my life who helped me throughout the different stages of my life. I wanted nothing but to wallow in my self-pity and feel horrible for all the setbacks that were persisting in my life. Having roommates in college was a large enough compromise in itself, but food proved especially difficult. Always, I criticized myself for not putting in enough effort in order to work up to my full potential. I had completely created an ideal body in my head of what was perfect and no one can achieve that realistically. This kind of hateful thinking made it a struggle to stay afloat. This I Believe is a popular essay genre that allows the writer to share a personal belief and, through a narrative, explain that belief's origin or a time that belief was put into action. I was starting to notice how unsatisfying my life seemed compared to everyone else. That is when I realized that they were healing. They so willingly hope and neglect the possibility of failure. I believe that as a person I am capable of allowing love to heal me. I remember when the ICE came into our room at 6 am in the morning. I thought nothing harmful could come from an app, but I was wrong. Caught off guard by roommates asking for tastes of my meals, I found myself naturally flowing into compromise the way my mother did, cooking for everyone and incorporating their preferences and restrictions. I do not know who I would be today if I had not pulled through these rough circumstances and persisted through high school regardless of the tragic events that occurred in my life. She insisted that the exact measurements or the exact ingredients weren't necessary and cooking was more of an art than a hard science, but I still felt I would undoubtedly obliterate any flavor or texture with a single misplaced grain of salt; no compromise would yield perfection. Every night I would pray to God to make sure my Mom was healthy. I stayed up late to study for exams and woke up early to take my younger brothers to school since my mother had no other option but to work two jobs after my dad had become physically disabled. I didn't want to go through life isolated, because of my anxiety. Having hope makes me motivated in achieving success. Murrow and was continued by NPR in 2004. You see, the most important thing a person can have is love. "I Believe in Loving Myself" by Samantha Sparkenbach I believe in loving myself. I am good enough to get the help that I need from others. I had trouble getting through each day. To submit your essay for the 2019-2020 academic year, please use the link below: This I Believe Showcase Essay Submission The Writing Center is proud to present CSUSM's This I Believe Showcase winners and their essays from the 2018-2019 Academic Year! "I Am Enough" by Adriana Adame Throughout my life, I have always thought of myself as a failure. It was my faith in God that made me strong these past years. Once I accepted that I would never be able to fulfill those unrealistic expectations that I had, I acknowledged that I needed to seek help by talking to mental health professionals. The essay genre started in the 1950s on a radio show with Edward R. As a 19-year-old female, I am proud to say that I have reached many milestones in my life that were on my to-do list, and it makes my passion for becoming a doctor intensely even higher, all thanks to diligence and patience. Without it, I wouldn't be where I am today, at California State University, San Marcos. My infatuations have always been a time when I do something uncharacteristic. Egg noodles instead of rice. Even today, I am faced with both internal and external struggles that would have normally held me back and prevented me from following my dreams, but a small voice of motivation in my head tells me to keep pushing through. Day after day, I would look at myself in the mirror, tearing myself down. Through loving myself I have learned inner peace and what it means to not rely on anyone else but myself. Prayers of us seeing each other soon, and for us to be safe and healthy. I believed that I was a weak and worthless individual, a waste of time. Though, this wasn't about working up to my full potential, but for not fulfilling the unrealistic expectations that I had burdened upon myself and by the people closest to me. As an aspiring surgeon, I realize that it will take more than just good grades and volunteer experience to become someone who saves lives. The short-term desires reveal uncharacteristic actions. Success is not measured by the position a person is in, but rather how much hard work a person put in and how many challenges had to be overcome. There wasn't a bright horizon that could be seen in the distance, but instead more black and gray clouds that would bring another storm my way. "Faith, Hope, and Love" by Karen Siquezua When I was six years old, my father, an undocumented immigrant was deported. As a millennial, I am part of the majority of people who use social media. I no longer wanted to go out or hang out with people because I thought people would see what I was perceiving and not enjoy me anymore. I wanted to live a life where I could be happy and be surrounded by people I admire. I never knew that that was the reason why he moved to Mexico. The mirror was starting to become a daily chore where I would point out every little detail I hated. Whether it's a job you've seen on television, following the footsteps of your idol, or getting your crush's phone number. Having hoped to see mom again gave me strength. I actually was successful in many ways: for making it to CSUSM; being able to be there to those close to me; and having the beautiful gift of having the freedom to be the person that I am today. Rejection is my greatest fear, but without it, I'll never know how to cope with failure ever again. Less sesame oil and more soy sauce. Three years later, my mother was also deported. I believe in the enduring process of healing. I was a failure for not being smart enough, friendly enough, or pretty enough. It has taught me how to have good work ethic and to always aim higher in everything I do. "Infatuation" by Reigmarc Vincent Labuguen I believe infatuations are necessary to strengthen desire, passion, and happiness in life. I accept that infatuation gets the most of me. Thanks to these admirations. At that time, I was enrolled in four A.P. classes, two dual enrollments classes, A.V.I.D., and I participated in three clubs on campus. It was a struggle to pretend that everything was okay. Ever since my mother realized I would have to cook for myself in college, she dedicated her summer to teaching me the ways of the kitchen. Out of many, seven This I Believe essays stood out to a reading committee made up of students, faculty, and staff. "I Believe in Healing" by Yahaira Cazares I believe in healing. I was convinced that it was necessary to have platforms like Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat. Kids heal because they believe that good outweighs evil. And I see in myself a newfound wisdom: it's ok to go off the beaten path, you can experiment, compromise can lead to something new and beautiful. The sole reason I was able to maintain a balance between all of my academic and extracurricular activities is because I believed in myself. I believe in change, I believe in growth, I believe in healing. It's hard to see it as a positive outcome, but the illusion of being disappointed begins to fade when a new opportunity is presented. Having faith gives you a chance of having hope. I started questioning why I wasn't living nearly the same exciting way they were. My body is unique and no one else has the same one as I do. From scrolling through pictures of girls who were living lavish lives that I would never have to compare my body to models and tell your story the right way, check out these three essay examples. 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