

St. Hugh Catholic School
Summer Reading Assignment
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
By: Jules Verne

Essay Due Date:
Wednesday, August 17, 2022

Student Name:

Directions: Choose one of the following essay topics and write a well-worded five (5) paragraph essay, using text-evidence, alongside quotes, to support your answer.

1. Is Nemo really such a bad guy, or is he just misunderstood?
2. Aronnax may be a scientist, but is his account of the voyage as objective as we might expect?
3. Verne never bothers answering the big questions about Nemo. We don't know his nationality, his real gripe with mankind, etc. Why do you think Verne leaves us in the dark?
4. Let's assume that Nemo was terribly wronged—that he was driven from land because of some awful tragedy, and that he and his crew endured the worst possible punishments and humiliations. Would Nemo's actions be justified then?
5. Is the *Nautilus's* plunge into the Maelstrom really an accident? Is an experienced captain like Nemo likely to make such a mistake?











