

## Essay

Topic: During her first year in Israel, Lesley learnt many important things.

Lesley learnt a lot of things in Israel. She learnt to respect all people no matter what they look like, that Canada was not a Jewish country and she could speak Israeli at first better than her mother and father because it was harder for them to learn, they had been away from school too long and were not used to lessons. Most of all she learnt not to judge anybody by their first impression on you and if you really get to know them they might be a lot different than you first might've expected. She learnt that war is a lot more than just pictures on a TV screen, that it is real people fighting for what they believe to be right and true. And that war might not be necessary all the time and most of the time it is not worth it loosing all your friends and family for a belief or "truth".

The way she learnt these important things was working in the gardens and going into the culture house and looking out over the river Jordan and looking at the poor Arabs over the border and realising how lucky she was to be living in such a poverty free country and have alot of luxuries that to the arabs might seem far off dreams that they know will never come true. Lesley learned Arabic so she could have pretend conversations with Mustapha and in case the Arabs and Isralies ever made peace it would be necceary to talk to them. She learnt that treating animals with respect, caring for them and feeding them nice food is a much more practical motivator than beating them. She learnt that hard work isn't so bad and maybe that not doing anything and letting other people work for you is not such a good idea after all.

She learnt these things because she it would be hard not to learn new things in a new and exciting country, in class she was very attentive especially in Arabic class because she wants peace for all countries as she writes on the back of her photo on page 242 "Peace between us and between our peoples" and she thinks that knowing Arabic would help that peace process working. The things she learns in the year that she was in Israel change her in a way that she couldn't have ever imagined a year earlier. She turns from being a spoilt "princess" to a hard working respectable young woman.

The End

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