

## English 12: Synthesis of Text

Scale: 4

**Comment:** This paper is competent. While a clear synthesis is presented, some language errors, particularly involving verb usage, are evident. Discussion is developed and supported with will-integrated references to the text.

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When people are in hopeless situation, being positive usually helps them escape from that circumstance. In Sinclair Ross's story "Circus in Town" and Jia Lynn Yang's article "Happyness' for Sale", both of the protagonists of the passages, Jenny and Chris Gardner, are represented as examples of the individuals who solve their problems by confronting the difficulties with optimistic attitudes.

An example of the role of optimism is portrayed in the story "Circus in Town" through Jenny's attitude against her situation. Because of her family's poverty, Jenny cannot go to the circus; unlike other children, her little hope just causes a quarrel between her parents. She just sits outside, and is desperate for her situation. Although Tom tries to console her by saying that the circus "[will not] be worth the money," she cannot accept her situation. However, instead of giving up her hope, she imagines her own circus. Her imagination help her to overcome her poverty at this moment: money does not matter to imagine her own circus. As a result, Jenny finds a way to escape from her poverty by being positive and imagining her wish.

On the other hand, Chris Gardner, the main character of the article " 'Happyness' for Sale", deals with his poverty in more active way.; in spite of his desperate situation of being homeless and raising his son without a mother, he does not lose the hope of being successful in his life; instead of cursing his situation, he makes decisions about "what [he is] going to do with [his] life," when he sleep at the bathroom. In other words, he never thinks that he is failed in his life. From this positive attitude, he can be successful in his life and founds his own firm, Gardner Rich. Furthermore, after his success, he attempts to give hope to other by having a lot of speeches believing that it is "sometimes all another person needs." This optimistic attitude of not losing the hope is the key of his success.

In both reading passages, the protagonists confront a situation where they might want to give up everything. However, they overcome the situation by being optimistic and not losing the hope; Jenny finally imagines her own circus, and Chris Gardner founds his own firm. Both of the stories remind people that being positive is the most important thing to be successful; even though they are in a hard situations, this mind helps them to overcome their circumstances.