

## English 12: Synthesis of Text

Scale: 4

**Comment: This paper was awarded a score of 4 due to its literal discussion and limited insight. While the paper tends to summarize more than analyse, a clear synthesis is apparent in the concluding paragraph.**

---

Jenny in "Circus in Town" and Chris Gardner in " 'Happyness' for Sale" are similar characters that are both optimistic and use their optimism to make the best of a bad situation. Optimism is key trait for both Jenny and Chris Gardner during hard times.

Jenny is a young girl living through the depression and has high hopes of going to the circus when she one day sees a poster with a picture of the elephant that performs in it. Since these were hard times for everyone her parents wern't able to give her money to go and watch. Unlike her big brother, who gets upset that the parents start fighting, Jenny is optimistic and goes out to the barn. There she thinks of what the circus might be like and dreams about the things the elephant and people might do. She does this instead of getting upset, showing she is optimistic and can find a good thing out of a bad situation.

Chris Gardner is a very successful man, but he wasn't always that way. Without his sence of optimism Chris would still be living on the streets. Chris used his ability to make a bad situation, such as living in a public washroom, livable. He made no money and only had a slim chance of getting a job there yet he made 200 calls a day to snag clients for Dean Witter. He stated, "Every time I picked up the phone, I knew I was getting closer to digging myself out of the hole." By saying that you can see how he was optimistic about the future and even though he had nothing he was able to see what could be instead of seeing what is.

Jenney and Chris both are a great example of optimistic people that show when you look for the good instead of the dwelling on the bad you are alot happyer and can achieve more. A smart person might be a better reader or writer but a person that is optimistic is truly skilled and Jenny and Chris are certainly no exception.