

Essay Title: Explore the character of Link in the novel *Stone Cold*. What does the novel tell us about the experience of being homeless?

Introduction:

- ∅ Introduce the novel and the author.
- ∅ Explain briefly what the novel is about.

The novel *Stone Cold* was written by ... It tells the story of Link ...

Paragraph 1:

- ∅ Introduce the character of Link and explain about his family situation.
- ∅ Explain how Link ends up being homeless and how he feels about it.
- ∅ Find a quotation which shows what you mean.
- ∅ Explain how the quotation proves your point.

Link is the main character of the story. The novel is told partly from his point of view. He was born in ... He lived with his mum and dad, until ...

Paragraph 2:

- ∅ Explain how Link ends up in London.
- ∅ Explain how Link tries to avoid being homeless and the different things which happen to him.
- ∅ Find a quotation to show something bad which happens to him.
- ∅ Explain how this quotation shows that being homeless is hard.

When Link realises that Bradford is too small, he moves to London, because ... At first, he tries to find a ... During his first night on the streets, Link is robbed and his watch is stolen: "QUOTATION". This shows ...

Paragraph 3:

- ∅ Explain how Link and Ginger first meet.
- ∅ Explain why Ginger is so important to Link and the kinds of things he teaches him.
- ∅ Find a quotation to show how pleased Link is to have Ginger as a friend.
- ∅ Explain how the quotation shows this.

Paragraph 4:

- ∅ Discuss the different ways people view homeless people in the book.
- ∅ Introduce the character of Shelter and what he thinks of homeless people.
- ∅ Find and quote some of the names Shelter calls homeless people.
- ∅ Explain how these show his attitude towards the homeless.

Paragraph 5:

- ∅ Introduce the character of Gail.
- ∅ Explain why she is also important to Link.
- ∅ Explain how she betrays Link and why she does this.
- ∅ Find a quotation to show that she only befriended Link to get a story.
- ∅ Explain why your quotation shows she is using Link.

Conclusion:

- ∅ Explain how the story ends and why it doesn't have a happy ending.
- ∅ Explain what you think we are supposed to learn about homelessness from the story.
- ∅ Give your opinion about the story and what you enjoyed about it.