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***DESIRE OVERTAKES FEAR***

“It does not matter how much you want, what really matters is how much you want it. The extent and complexity of the problem does not matter as much as does the willingness to solve it” (famous Ralph Marston). In other words, determination and willingness really affects the way a person achieves their goal. The novel, *The Old Man and the Sea* by Earnest Hemingway has many themes but the book mainly focuses on the theme that if a person has the willingness and strong determination to do something, then he/she will do it, no matter how many problems they will have to face. In the first place, Santiago’s hand cramps up while he is fishing but he does not give up. Furthermore, he eats raw dolphin to stay strong. Moreover, he stays away from his home for three days though he is getting cold and sick due to unpleasant weather. To restate, willingness and strong determination can change how a person achieve their goal.

To begin, “Pain is temporary. It may last a minute, or an hour, or a day, or a year, but eventually it will subside and something else will take its place. If I quit, however, it lasts forever.” (Lance Armstrong quotes). To put it differently, pain does not stay for a long time but if a person decides to lose hope and quit, it will never heal. Santiago’s hand gets cramps due to fishing but he does not care and continues fishing. Despite the pain being is intense but he does not stop because he is determined. Santiago says,” It is

not bad, and pain does not matter to a man” (Hemingway 84). This certainly proves that he is not going to give up, no matter how much it hurts. He gentles his fingers by rubbing them against his trousers and wishes, “God help me to have the cramp go, because I do not know what the fish is going to do” (Hemingway 60). In other words, this quote explains the pain he is going through and that the fish is giving him many difficulties. In addition, Santiago’s pain helps him motivate himself. Therefore, this proves that willingness helps to attain a certain goal. In conclusion, a person should be strong willed in order to achieve his/her goals.

Furthermore, "When faced with a challenge, look for a way, not a way out" (Inspirational Challenge quotes). That is to say, that if a person gets a challenge then he/she should try to find a way to solve it, not to avoid it. An example of this is when Santiago eats raw dolphin due to lack of food and in order to stay healthy. He finds a way when in hunger, instead of leaving hope that he is not going to find anything to eat. “What an excellent fish dolphin is to eat cooked, and what a miserable fish raw” (Hemingway 80) says Santiago to himself. This quote proves that Santiago is very desperate about catching that fish and therefore, he eats the raw dolphin. Sometimes circumstances get very hard and a person has no choice but to face it. Thus, this proves that Santiago’s willingness helps him to get through the difficulties.

Lastly, "Victories in life come through our ability to work around and over the obstacles that cross our path. We grow stronger as we climb our own mountains" (Packy playfair). In other means, achievement directly correlates to how hard a person tries to get something and as a person goes through those hardships, they help themselves to make their own way. Santiago goes through many difficulties but he never gives up. He

stays for three days in the sea despite he is getting sick due to the bad weather. He feels faint and is not able to see well. "There will be bad weather in (three) or (four) days" (Hemingway 80). This illustrates that Santiago is not well prepared to deal with the bad weather but he is well determine and he knows what he has to do. Accordingly, Santiago does not care about anything, even his life, when it interferes with achieving his goals. To sum up, determination is very essential to get something.

In conclusion, "Ambition may be defined as the willingness to receive any number of hits on the nose" (Willingness quotes). In order to attain a goal in life, a person should be ready to face any kind of hardships. This quote illustrates Santiago's life, and his perseverance to attain his goal. Firstly, his hands get cramps due to fishing. Secondly, he eats raw fish to stay strong. Lastly, he spends 3 days at the sea and due to that, he gets sick. "Be calm and strong, old man." (Hemingway 91) says, Santiago to himself to stay patient and focused. To conclude, in the end, Santiago catches the fish and proves that willingness of doing something makes a difference.

**Works Cited**

Hemmingway, E. *The Old Man and the Sea*. New York: Scribners, 1985.