

Maryland InvestWrite
FALL 2020 Writing Prompt and OFFICIAL Winning Essay



**Fall 2020 InvestWrite Question
All Grades**

Describe something you've done to adapt to change or overcome an obstacle. How will this experience guide your future success? Now describe something a publicly traded company has done to adapt to change and explain how that makes it a good long-term investment. What other stocks, bonds or mutual funds would you combine with this company for a successful long-term portfolio and why?

Performance Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Develop social/emotional learning skills related to self-awareness, decision-making and setting goals
- Utilize critical thinking skills to apply concepts and terminology from the Stock Market Game
- Identify the main ideas in the InvestWrite prompt
- Write an essay that informs and/or persuades its readers
- Use appropriate grammar, spelling, structure, and language to convey intent

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Elementary
STATE Winner
STUDENT: Jackson D

Investing is a great thing to do if you have the chance. When I first started the Stock Market Game I really did not know anything about the stock market. Now I know that investing in the stock market can help you make money. This essay is about overcoming things in your life and about companies that have overcome obstacles. Stocks sometimes go through rough times. Should you invest in a company that has had tough times?

When my bike's chain came off, I had to learn how to fix it. This was hard to overcome because it took me many tries. At first, I just looked at it trying to figure it out. I tried pulling it but it was too tight. Then I tried going from the bottom where it was loose. I was able to put it back on and from that day on I could do it. I now know that you need to learn new things to be successful. I also had to adapt to change because now my bike chain comes off frequently and I can quickly fix it now.

Ford Motor Company was the first American automaker. In the early 1900s Ford was not the only automaker. Henry Ford learned to do things differently to be the most successful automaker. He decided to make only one model of car and to make it simple. The simple design allowed him to sell more cars because they were less expensive to build. He also invented the assembly line to allow more cars to be made faster. He built the largest factory in the world in 1910 to produce his cars. Henry Ford changed and adapted the way he built cars to become one of the largest and most successful companies. Ford continues to be one of the largest car makers and continues to grow and change which makes them a solid investment.

While Ford is a good company to invest in, you need to diversify your portfolio. It is important to diversify because it minimizes your risk. I would want to also invest in small-cap stocks, mid-cap stocks, mutual funds, and bonds. Health care stocks would be good to invest in right now because of the pandemic and recent vaccine that was released. Retail stocks would be good too because people need to stock up on things during the pandemic.

The Stock Market Game has been helpful to me. I have learned so much about stocks and investing. Some of the things I learned were how to research companies, follow the NASDAQ, and how things happening in the world can affect the stock market. In the future I plan to invest in the stock market to help make money.