Researching and Changing the World

**Introductory Paragraph EXAMPLE:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Joe Neman Neman 1

01/16/12

Mr. Neman

World Literature 1st period

Researching and Changing the World Assignment

Oceans of my Heart

 The water, blue, salty, and warm, glimmered from the sunlight above. I fluttered my feet like

fins, swam with my arms, and breathed rhythmically through the spout of my snorkel. I gazed

down at the ocean floor, vibrant schools of fish darted between the gorgeously ancient coral and

the sea plants swayed gently through the clear, clean water. The thick, peaceful silence of the

waves kept me cozy as I explored the deep, dangerously vast blue, beautiful ocean. When my

Samoan friend, Ioane, asked me to go snorkeling in Fagatele Bay, I was terrified. I knew how to

swim, but swimming out in the ocean, with its ladder-less environment, bloody possibilities of

sharks and jellyfish, and horror of rip tides, was frightening to me. I had been living in Samoa

for about a year, and I knew that I had to snorkel sometime while I lived on the South Pacific

island. I decided to take the dive that day when Ioane invited me. After our snorkeling

adventure, I walked on the beach shore and my mind and heart were changed. I was no longer

scared of the oceans surrounding Samoa. I peered out at the profoundly pristine ocean of

Fagatele Bay and was amazed by it. I fell in love.

 “Wasn’t that great?” Ioane asked.

 I nodded and smiled. Then I glanced down, my feet in the warm sand, and saw an empty

Bongos snack bag. A piece of trash ruined the moment. And I was pissed. The oceans

surrounding American Samoa, like all of the oceans of earth, are in danger. Human pollution is

slowly killing our oceans, and American Samoa, with a culture filled with pride and dignity, is

particularly in trouble. Fagatele Bay and the waters surrounding this Polynesian island need

protection. The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation is trying to do just that. Protect the

oceans of my heart.