Purpose
This essay competition encourages and recognizes incoming freshmen who read and write about the 2012-2013 Bearkats Read to Succeed common reader, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot.

Essay Topic
The essay should be a short personal narrative related to one of the following themes: coping with illness, overcoming adversity, or confronting an ethical dilemma.

Eligibility
The contest is open to all freshmen who enroll full-time (minimum 12 hours) at Sam Houston State University in the Fall 2012 semester.

Prize
A scholarship valued at $500 will be awarded to the freshman student submitting the winning essay. The winner will also be recognized at the David “Sonny” Lacks student dinner on November 8, 2012.

Application
Essays must be submitted by October 24, 2012, to wctr@shsu.edu. Electronic email submissions are preferred. Submissions should be sent as email attachments (Microsoft Word documents, RTF files, or PDF files only). Submissions by traditional mail are also acceptable. Please mail submissions to:

Ann Theodori, Director
Sam Houston Writing Center
Campus Box 2333
Huntsville, TX 77341

Rules of the Contest
1. All applicants must be freshmen enrolled at Sam Houston State University full-time during the Fall 2012 academic term.

2. All essays must be typed, double-spaced, on white, 8 ½” x 11” paper and free of any remarks or grade.

3. All submissions must include the submission cover form information on the next page. The essay itself must not contain the student’s name since essays will be evaluated anonymously. In other words, the cover form should be the first page of your essay submission. (The cover form will not count toward the word count in the essay.)

4. A student may submit only one entry.

5. Winners will be notified by the Sam Houston State University Writing Center.

6. There is no minimum length requirement. The maximum length is 1000 words.
SUBMISSION COVER FORM
The 2012 – 2013
Sam Houston State University
Bearkats Read to Succeed
Fall 2012 Freshman Essay Contest

Entry due no later than 4 p.m. Wednesday October 24, 2012

Sam Houston State University Writing Center
Ann Theodori, Director
Sam Houston Writing Center
Campus Box 2333
Huntsville, TX 77341

Electronic email submissions: wctr@shsu.edu

Student’s Full Name ___________________________________________
Student’s ID Number ___________________________________________
Student Email Address __________________________________________
Telephone Number _____________________________________________

I am submitting an original essay for the Bearkats Read to Succeed
Fall 2012 Freshman Essay Contest. I certify that this essay is my own work.
I understand that my essay will not be returned to me and may be used by
Sam Houston State University for publication in promotional materials.

____________________________________________  ______________________
Student Signature                                           Date