

# Sample Extended Response

## Statement:

Sky sacrifices her morals/values.

## Response:

In the novel *Sky*, by Ondine Sherman, the protagonist sacrifices her values to become popular. At Marissa's birthday party, Sky is desperate to fit in and will do almost anything to be part of the group. This can be observed during the dinner scene, where Sky does not divulge to her new friends that she is a vegan and instead decides to eat the roast chicken served up by Marissa's mother. Sky reassures herself that this decision is because her "world has changed, [her] globe has fallen off its axis." (pg. 65) Sherman uses a metaphor here to compare the upheaval in Sky's life to a planet which is spinning aimlessly in the universe, with nothing to anchor it. Furthermore, the connotations of the word 'fallen' suggest some sort of decline. In this case, Sky has metaphorically fallen from a place where she once felt stability and was assured in her values and beliefs. Her desperation to be part of a group can be seen when she declares; "I am certain and clear. I need, want, and must have this group." (pg. 65) Sherman's use of the words 'need', 'want' and 'must' convey a tone of absolute conviction and suggest to the reader that Sky is willing to forgo her values to be popular. Therefore, the novel explores the difficulties of finding true friends whilst retaining one's values.

