

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

AP Biology Winter Break assignment

Answer each of the following questions in one page. You will be turning in 2 typed pages, one for each question. Your response should be **typed, double spaced, times new roman, 12 font with normal 1 inch margins**. Please use a cover page with your name and an assignment name. Do not use MLA format. The top margin for this assignment should be 1 inch on each page of your response. Longer or shorter responses will not receive credit.

1. Discuss the importance of HeLa cells to the advancement of knowledge in the biomedical sciences in the past and in the future. Please give specific examples in your description.
2. Describe the bioethical concerns faced by researchers who are currently using both HeLa cells and cells harvested from other donors?

DO NOT ANSWER this, just think about it:

Think about what you would do...

What if you could potentially save thousands of lives and make millions of lives more comfortable by harvesting cells from a donor who does not give you their consent to take their cells. If you could use the donated cells to find a therapy for a disease, would you do it? This is the fundamental problem faced by some researchers today. Without laws to guide these decisions, researchers simply made their own decisions.

What if they were your cells, and your personal belief system prevented you from allowing your cells to be harvested?