**Thoreau vs. Chris McCandless: The Lasting Influence of *Walden***

1. What was Chris McCandless seeking when he ventured into the wild?

1. Why did he change his name?
2. What was McCandless’s educational and family background?
3. What personality flaws does Krakauer see in McCandless?
4. How did McCandless survive for as long as he did?
5. In what ways did McCandless document his experiences?
6. In what specific ways did McCandless renounce material possessions?
7. How did literature influence McCandless’s life and beliefs?
8. What other doomed adventurers does Krakauer mention, and how do they compare to McCandless? In what way does Krakauer incorporate his own experience into his analysis?
9. How did most Alaskans regard McCandless’s story, and what evidence did they use to support this?
10. Do you believe McCandless found what he was looking for? What evidence is there to support this? What is your assessment of the life and death of Christopher McCandless?
11. Would you ever set out on such a solitary journey? If so, what would you do differently? If not, why not?