Shrek Example essay:

Dreamworks is a company that produces movies with many different ideas and themes, such as injustice. One such movie with injustice is the movie Shrek. **The movie Shrek uses the characters of Shrek, Fiona, and Donkey to comment on injustice. (THESIS)**

**Shrek is the first character to face injustice because he is an ogre.** **(TOPIC SENTENCE)** *Ogres are seen as big, ugly, and dangerous, so the villagers rally to kill him even though they don’t know a thing about him or whether he is even a threat to them at all.* Their ignorance regarding ogres is effectively displayed when one of the villagers states “He’ll grind your bones for bread” to which Shrek replies “Actually, that would be giants.” These villagers don’t actually know how or if Shrek is dangerous; they are relying on stereotypes and rumours. *Shrek also faces injustice when Lord Farquaad dumps all of the fairy tale creatures in his swamp.* Lord Farquaad didn’t ask his permission, or even inform Shrek as to what was going on, so the little dictator had no right to do this. *A third example of injustice against Shrek is the racism he endures*. When he defeats Lord Farquaad’s knights, he is told that he “shouldn’t even be alive because nobody wants or likes him anyway” because he is an ogre. Another quote that shows this racism is when Farquaad says “he’s just an ogre…it’s not like it has feelings.” These statements clearly display the racism and injustice that Shrek lives with on a daily basis.

**Another character who faces injustice is Princess Fiona**. *Being locked in the tallest tower of a castle to await a knight to come and rescue her is an example of injustice because it strips her of the right to live a life of her own.* If she has to wait in the castle for this knight, she is then limited to only marrying the knight instead of being able to do whatever she wants to with her life. *When she is being taken by Shrek back to Lord Farquaad’s castle, Fiona is confronted by injustice again when she meets the bandits in the forest*. The bandits snatch her away assuming she is a “damsel in distress” without taking the time to learn that she is quite capable of taking care of herself. Robin Hood says “I am rescuing you from this green beast”, but clearly she is not in need of being rescued. She even says “Look pal, I don’t know who you think you are”, not so subtly hinting at the fact that he is not welcome, but she is then cut off as Robin Hood goes into his song to impress her.  *Fiona is again plagued by injustice when she is set to marry Lord Faquaad.* He does not really love her, but only wants to marry her so that he can become a king. This was made clear when the magic mirror pointed out to Farquaad that his community is not a “kingdom” and will not be one until he “marries a princess.” This was the only reason that Farquaad had Fiona rescued and this robs Fiona of the right to a happy, lasting, marriage that is based on love. Because of this she is denied her “fairy tale ending” which she so desires.

**A final character to be confronted with injustice is Donkey**. When Lord Farquaad ordered the removal of all fairy tale creatures, *Donkey’s owner brought him in to be sold because talking is not something that donkeys are supposed to do. Being sold is not something that Donkey could control, so he had no say in the matter.* He even begs his owner not to sell him saying “please, please, don’t turn me in…I’ll never be stubborn again” The fact that a talking creature with free will could be “owned” at all is indeed an example of injustice. *After escaping, he faces injustice again as he tries to befriend his savior Shrek. Shrek is rude to him and tells him to leave immediately, before he even gets to know Donkey or find out if he would be a good friend.* Donkey is called an “ugly, annoying, talking donkey” by Shrek only seconds after meeting. Donkey is even relegated to sleep outside in the dark and cold even though Shrek has a warm and roomy house which would have easily accommodated the two of them. *A final example of injustice that Donkey faces is shown when Shrek rejects Donkey after Fiona leaves to marry Farquaad. Shrek yells at Donkey and tells him to get away when Donkey didn’t do anything wrong.* In a fit of frustration that had nothing to do with Donkey’s actions, Shrek tells Donkey to get out of his swamp. Donkey recognizes that this is unfair and says “you are mean to me and you don’t appreciate anything that I do.” Having someone take their frustrations on an innocent person is a clear example of injustice and it is only because Donkey is such a determined friend to Shrek that they are able to work through this issue.

**Injustice is prominent in the movie Shrek, as shown by what Shrek, Fiona, and Donkey have to face. (THESIS)** Injustice is a concept frequently explored in many stories, and by seeing examples of this in works of art like movies and novels we are able to better reflect on how injustice impacts our own world.