*The Pearl Essay*

In the book The Pearl, by John Steinbeck, a young family live in a brush house on the coast. The man, named Kino, is a fisherman who hunts for pearls. The family has little money and cannot afford a doctor when their son, Coyotito, gets stung by a scorpion. Soon after the sting Kino is out diving for pearls. Kino comes across what he calls “the pearl of the world” and he believes his whole life has changed. Little does he know that his life would not change in the way he had anticipated. He ends up not able to sell the pearl at price he feels worthy. Later that night he gets attacked and kills his attacker. He is forced to flee town and his family becomes hunted. Kino thinks he can get to the capital and sell the pearl but runs into much trouble along the way. Kino is attacked and also is forced to leave his home. Both of these things prove the luck doesn’t always bring goodness.

Kino was attacked because he had a high value pearl that could change the lives of many. Many other villagers had thought that the riches of the pearl would go to his head and they thought they should relieve him of the pearl because they would do many more “well doings”. In the end there thoughts to attack Kino and steal the pearl fails immensely when he kills one of his attackers and still has the pearl. These happenings show that luck does not always bring goodness.

 Kino was forced to leave his home after killing one of his attackers. It also did not help that his house was burned down. Kino, his wife Juana, and Coyotito all left on foot toward the capital. Half way through their journey they realize that they have trackers looking for the pearl. They are in search of the pearl. Kino soon got the idea that they can lose the trackers in the mountains. After a long ways of traveling they come to a point where there is water. They decide to wait here for the trackers and when they come Kino will surprise them and kill them. When they come Kino sneaks up behind them under the cover of night fall. Before Kino can reach them one of the trackers shoots toward the place where Kino’s family was hiding. In a rage Kino attacks and kills them all with ease, but when he is done he finds his son was shot in the head. Kino believes that the pearl is evil and he throws it back into the ocean. The luck of the pearl did not bring goodness to him or his family.

In the end the book The Pearl by John Steinbeck showed a great lesson in which luck does not always bring goodness. We saw this lesson in the lives of Kino and his family because they were attacked and forced to leave there home.