

writing

[illegible]

When a person uses his or her cell phone in the company of family, friends, or children, the other person feels rejected. The person feels as though he or she is less important than the cell phone.

Brigham Young University conducted a study with 143 couples. The majority of them reported that technology was

Source
The Convenience of

The Conven...

Ninety percent of adult Americans have cell phones, which have enhanced our daily lives. The technology makes it so easy to use that thanks to cell phones, people can easily access weather, upcoming events, or the answer to a simple question.

Smartphones provide access to the Internet and other services. Americans with annual household income over \$75,000 use smartphones as their main source of information.

weather... a lot of time. Smartphones... Americans with... have regular access... smartphones people... year, 13 percent use... learn... Smartphone access... percent... ter their lives. People... their health. Sixty... their... smartphone users have... e... phones for health-related... at... Technology even allows people... at... doctors virtually. Fifty-seven... of people use their phones for... banking. Forty-three percent of... look up information about jobs. Th... statistics prove how smartphones... our lives.

Writing Prompt

Name: _____

There are benefits and negative impacts of cell phones. Write an essay for your parents in which you give your opinion about whether or not parents should have a say in their children's lives. Date: _____

Opinion Writing

Name: _____

Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points)

• The writer's opinion is clear and specific.

• The writer provides evidence to support the opinion.

• The writer explains how the evidence supports the opinion.

• The writer uses appropriate language and style for the audience and purpose.

- read the text
- plan your answer
- write your answer
- revise your answer

- an int
- supp
- a con

Opinion Writing Rubric

| Name: _____ | | Opinion Writing Rubric | | English Conventions (2 points) |
|-------------|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Score | Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points) | Evidence & Elaboration (4 points) | | |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is consistently focused on its purpose, audience, and task. The author's opinion is clearly stated. The essay has an effective organizational structure. <p>The essay includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a strong opinion with no unrelated details ➤ an effective use of transitional strategies to show relationships between ideas ➤ a logical progression of ideas from the beginning to the end ➤ a satisfying introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has thorough and convincing support and evidence that supports the author's opinion. The author uses sources, facts, and details. <p>The essay includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ relevant evidence integrated into the essay ➤ references to sources ➤ a demonstration of understanding of the topic and text ➤ effective and precise expression of language ➤ accurate and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for audience and purpose ➤ varied sentence structure | | |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is mostly focused on the purpose, audience, and task. The author's opinion is stated. The essay has an organizational structure. <p>The essay includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a clear opinion, though some loosely related details may be included ➤ some transitional strategies to show relationships between ideas ➤ a progression of ideas from the beginning to the end ➤ an introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has support and evidence that supports the author's opinion. The author uses sources, facts, and details. <p>The essay includes most of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ evidence integrated into the essay that may be general, imprecise, and inconsistent ➤ some elaborative techniques ➤ precise and general language ➤ domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for audience and purpose ➤ some varied sentence structure | | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is somewhat focused on its purpose, audience, and task. The essay is insufficient or unclear. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has inconsistent and unclear support for the author's opinion. The author does not effectively use sources, facts, or details. <p>The essay may include some of the following</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay demonstrates an understanding of basic conventions. The author may have some minor errors, but there are no patterns of errors. There is an adequate use of | |

Writing prompts follow state testing format.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 1: The Benefits of Animal Testing

In 1952, tens of thousands of Americans suffered from a disease called polio. It caused paralysis and death, most often in children under the age of five. Today, polio has been almost completely eliminated, along with other serious diseases. Scientists have been able to prevent these diseases thanks in part to animal research. Although it can be a controversial topic, there are several good reasons for testing products on animals. These include understanding biology, studying diseases, testing new medicines, and protecting humans, animals, and the environment.

Animal research allows scientists to understand more about how living things work. All animals are composed of cells, which are quite similar from one species to another. All animals perform certain functions, like digestion, respiration, and reproduction. As scientists study these functions in one species, they gain knowledge that can help all animals. By better understanding how animals work, they can come up with better solutions when something doesn't work.

Studying diseases is an important reason to use animals for testing. Scientists are still learning about what causes many diseases and how they affect the body. They can study animals in controlled settings in a way they cannot do with people. For example, if a rat is born in captivity, scientists know everything it has ever eaten. They can test whether dietary factors lead to disease or affect the way it develops. With humans, scientists would not have such accurate information. Because many animals and humans share some of the same diseases, learning about them can help many different species.

Another good reason for animal testing is to develop treatments for injuries and diseases. Creating medical devices or medicines requires a lot of testing on animals.

Name: _____ Date: _____

960L Opinion Writing

Source 2: The Harmful Side of Animal Testing

Animal research is a popular method for scientists to conduct experiments. Scientists experiment with animals to help better understand how humans may react to certain situations, chemicals, drugs, or diseases. Every day, hundreds of thousands of animals are used in these experiments. Scientists use animals like cats, monkeys, rabbits, dogs, and mice to conduct painful and life-threatening tests. Many people condone the use of animals in research; however, it is unfair to subject animals to inhumane tests.

Many of the tests performed on animals are inhumane. Some experiments subject animals to very high doses of harmful chemicals or medicines for long periods of time. These experiments make animals very sick, and many of the animals suffer significant pain.

The animals used in the experiments are generally healthy prior to the experiments. Scientists intentionally making these otherwise healthy animals sick. Humans have a duty to care for the animals around us, and it is wrong to intentionally inflict pain and suffering on otherwise healthy animals.

Many people argue that the research conducted on animals is fundamental to the development of new medicines. Research conducted on animals can lead to the development of new medicines that can lead to better health for humans.

Name: _____ Date: _____

| Opinion Writing Rubric | | English Co (2 p |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Score | Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points) | Evidence & Elaboration (4 points) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is consistently focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is clearly stated.The essay has an effective structure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has thorough and relevant evidence to support its opinion. |

Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Prompt

Your nearby hospital is considering opening a research lab where they will implement animal testing to ensure the safety of medications for humans. Write a letter to the lab in which you give your opinion on whether or not animal testing is ethical. Use information from the passages in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- read the passages
- plan your response
- write your response
- revise and edit your response

Be sure to include:

- an introduction
- support for your opinion using information from the passages
- a conclusion that is related to your opinion.


Your response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph letter. Write your response in the space provided.

Includes 2-4 sources per topic.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 1:
The Dangers of Technoference

part of our everyday lives. Many people are attached to their cell every few minutes checking their phones. Did you know that constant cell phone use is when technology interferes with a person's relationships. In a study, 60 percent of families reported that technoference occurred at least three times a day. 17 percent said that it occurred twice a day. Seventeen percent reported that it occurred at least once. Only eleven percent reported no interruptions due to technology.



...a person uses his or her phone in the company of friends, or children, the person feels rejected. The person feels as though he or she is less important than the cell phone.

Brigham Young University conducted a study with 143 couples. The majority of them reported that technology was

780L Opinion Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 2:
Connection at Your Fingertips

Most people have cell phones. Cell phones improve communication. Technology connects people who may otherwise be out of touch.

Many families and friends live miles apart. Cell phones help us stay in touch with people we cannot regularly see. People can snap photos of their children and send them to grandparents. They can quickly text friends they may not have time to call. People use social media to connect with friends and family they have lost touch with.

After Hurricane Harvey, social media posts reunited families that had been separated due to evacuation. Some sent help due to social media posts.

Anais Bordier and Samantha Futerman are twins. They were separated for over 40 years when they were adopted. Anais found her long-lost sister through Facebook.

Cell phones and social media help people meet. People meet their spouses through social media more than any other way. Sites such as LinkedIn help people find jobs. Without access to the Internet, these opportunities would be lost.

1000L Opinion Writing

Name: _____

Source 4:
A Disconnected Generation

Today's teens are more connected than ever, but this is due to technology.

860L Opinion Writing

Name: _____

Source 3:
The Convenience of Smartphones

Ninety percent of adult Americans have cell phones. The technology makes our lives easier. Thanks to cell phones, people can easily access information. Smartphones provide access to the Internet to help with weather, upcoming events, or the answer to a simple question.

Smartphones have regular access to the Internet. 90 percent of Americans with annual household income of \$10,000 or more use smartphones as their main source of information.

Smartphone use has helped people live better lives. Sixty percent of smartphone users have learned something new. Smartphone use has helped people live better lives. Sixty percent of smartphone users have learned something new.

Technology even allows people to visit doctors virtually. Fifty-seven percent of people use their phones for health-related information. Three percent of people use their phones for health-related information.

Name: _____

Writing Prompt

There are benefits and negative impacts of cell phones. Write an essay for your parents in which you give your opinion about whether or not parents should limit their children's cell phone use.

Name: _____

Opinion Writing

| Score | Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points) | Evidence & Explanation (4 points) |
|-------|--|--|
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is consistently focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is clearly stated.The essay has an effective organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a strong opinion with no unrelated detailsan effective use of transitional strategies to show relationships between ideasa logical progression of ideas from the beginning to the enda satisfying introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has thorough support and evidence for the author's opinion.The author uses relevant evidence to support the opinion.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">relevant evidencereferences to the topic and taskeffective academic languageappropriate transitionsvaried sentence structures |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is mostly focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is stated.The essay has an organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a clear opinion, though some loosely related details may be includedsome transitional strategies to show relationships between ideasa progression of ideas from the beginning to the endan introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has some support and evidence for the author's opinion.The author uses relevant evidence to support the opinion.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">relevant evidencereferences to the topic and taskeffective academic languageappropriate transitionsvaried sentence structures |



Opinion Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source I: Bringing the Ocean to Humans

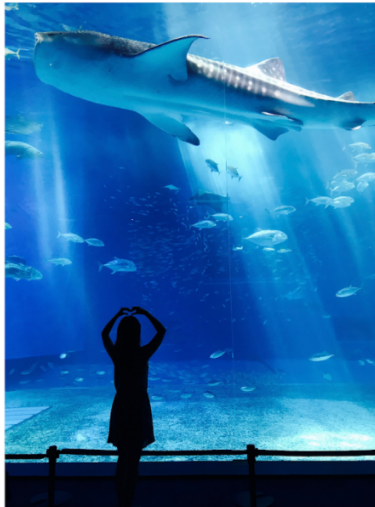
There has been a lot of criticism of aquariums in the media. Many of the claims made are untrue. **Aquariums have wonderful benefits.** They help marine animals and the humans that visit them.

Aquariums bring the ocean to people. Most people are unable to observe large marine mammals in their natural habitats. Aquariums make it possible for people to observe and learn about large marine mammals. Educating people about marine animals is extremely important. Visiting an aquarium can connect people to marine animals, which makes people more likely to want to help these beautiful creatures.

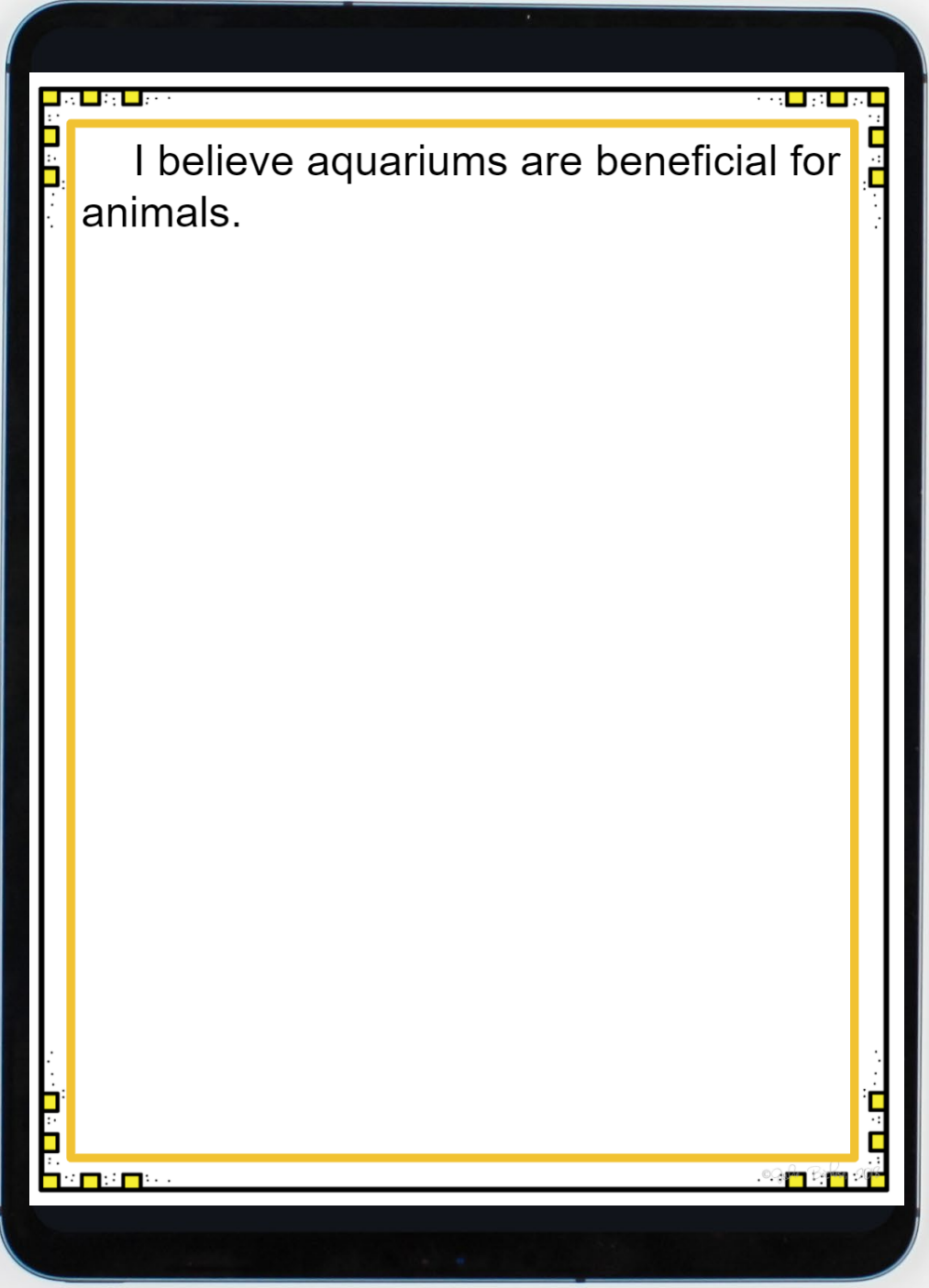
Also, aquariums have helped scientists conduct research. Studying whales and dolphins in aquariums has taught us about how they live and behave. SeaWorld experts alone have published over 300 scientific studies. Additionally, SeaWorld has partnered with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and pledged \$10 million to fund research and conservation for wild killer whales.

Whales and other marine mammals living in aquariums enjoy the interactions they have with humans. Training gives them the physical and mental exercise they need. They have chances to play, learn, and exercise. A dolphin trainer at the Georgia Aquarium stated, "By building strong relationships with these dolphins, we create a bond and level of trust that allows us to train these critical behaviors."

Aquariums are wonderful places that benefit human visitors and the animals that live in them. You can support your local aquarium by visiting or donating to their cause.



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I believe aquariums are beneficial for animals.

OPINION writing

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This product includes five original passage sets with corresponding opinion and persuasive prompts. It is perfect for standardized test prep or to be used as an assessment to demonstrate the mastery of Common Core Standards W.4.I and W.5.I.

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- Source 2: Eat Organic: 800L
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3. Passage & Prompt Set 3: Technology

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6. Standards-Based Scoring Rubric



What is Included?

Level: E Opinion Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 1: Understanding the "Organic" Label

As you browse the aisles of the grocery store, you probably notice the increasing number of products with the green "USDA Organic" label. What does this label mean?

Labels help us make decisions about the foods we purchase. They can give us information about where our foods come from and how they are produced. It is important to understand these labels because they don't always mean what they appear to mean.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's organic seal means that the products are produced according to strict standards. These products are regulated by the government and are certified organic.

- Organic crops cannot be genetically modified. Genetically modified crops are created in laboratories. GMOs can present both health and environmental risks.
- Organic crops cannot be grown with synthetic fertilizers, pesticides, or herbicides.
- Animals can only eat organically grown feed without animal by-products.
- Animals can't be treated with synthetic hormones or antibiotics.
- Animals must have access to outdoors. Ruminants, or hoofed animals, must have access to pastures.
- Animals cannot be cloned.

For food products to be labeled as organic, a government-certified inspector must visit the farm to ensure that the farmer is following all of the rules to meet USDA organic standards.

Level: B Opinion Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 2: Eat Organic

When you devour a crisp apple, you probably think that you are eating healthy. What is in the foods you eat? Unless you're eating organic foods, chances are they contain chemicals.

Organic foods are much healthier than conventional foods. Did you know that great-grandparents ate organically? In modern times, farming has changed. We use genetically modified organisms, fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. Conventional farming methods, our bodies have not changed. We are not built to consume foods labeled as organic meet standards. Organic foods cannot be treated with fertilizers, antibiotics, growth hormones, or other chemicals. Conventional foods for consumption are raised on soy and corn, which is 90% GMO. Their use of fertilizers, antibiotics, growth hormones, and other chemicals makes them produce more food. Cows are given growth hormones. This makes them produce more milk. Cows get infections. Infections need to be treated with antibiotics. Many conventional farms treat their animals inhumanely. They pump hormones into their way into your food when you consume a cheeseburger or hot dog.

Many conventional farms never see the light of day. They are in unsanitary conditions. They are overfed and pumped with hormones. Animals raised at conventional farms never see the light of day. Organic farmers must be organic. Organic farmers raised animals must be cage free. Organically raised animals must be able to graze on grass for at least 120 days a year. They are healthy and happy.

Organic foods are better for you. Organic farmers do not use synthetic pesticides, herbicides, or pesticides on their crops. Organic farmers use natural killers, or pesticides on their crops. The National Water Quality Institute conducted a study. They found that the water quality of rivers in the United States is better where organic farms are located. Organic foods are distributed in your local grocery store. You go grocery shopping and you support a healthy environment.

Level: E Opinion Writing

Name: _____ Date: _____

Source 3: The Organic Myth


Eating organic foods has become very popular over the past several years. Many people believe that organic foods are better than conventional foods because organic foods have health, ethical, and environmental benefits. Although there are benefits to eating organic foods, eating conventional foods is a better choice.

Growing organic produce and raising organic livestock puts pressure on the environment. Conventional foods have a lower impact because more food can be produced with less effort. Conventional fruits and vegetables benefit from genetic modification. This makes them more resilient to disease and drought. Conventional plants grow faster and larger than organic plants. Therefore, farmers are able to grow more food with equivalent resources.

More space is needed to raise organic livestock than conventional livestock. Organic animals require open land for the animals to roam. Conventional livestock can be kept in small areas, allowing farmers to keep more livestock within the same space. Farmers are able to reduce the impact that conventional livestock have on the environment by keeping them in small barns or cages.

Growing organic produce and raising organic livestock is more expensive than conventional foods. These expenses are passed through the supply chain and to the consumer. People who buy organic foods pay more for their food than people who buy conventional foods.

Conventional foods and organic foods contain the same nutrition levels. People claim that conventional foods are unhealthy because they are treated with chemicals; however, the pesticides and herbicides used in conventional farming are all approved by the FDA. These chemicals have been used for a long time. There is no evidence that they harm people. Organic foods are healthy, inexpensive, and have the same nutrition levels as conventional foods.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Prompt

The debate about whether or not it is important to eat organic foods is becoming more popular. Write an essay in which you give your opinion about whether people should or should not support organic farms. Use information from the passages in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- read the passages
- plan your response
- write your response
- revise and edit your response

Be sure to include:

- an introduction
- support for your opinion using information from the passages
- a conclusion that is related to your opinion.

Your response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph essay. Write your response in the space provided.

Articles with various viewpoints on 5 topics

5 Writing Prompts

| Score | Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points) | Evidence & Elaboration (4 points) | English Conventions (2 points) |
|-------|--|--|---|
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is consistently focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is clearly stated.The essay has an effective organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a strong opinion with no unrelated detailsan effective use of transitional strategies to show relationships between ideasa logical progression of ideas from the beginning to the enda satisfying introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has thorough and convincing support and evidence that supports the author's opinion.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">relevant evidence integrated into the essayreferences to sourcesa demonstration of understanding of the topic and taskeffective and precise expression of languageacademic and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for audience and purposevaried sentence structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions.The author may have some minor errors in usage, but there are no patterns of errors in capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is mostly focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is stated.The essay has an organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a clear opinion, though some loosely related details may be includedsome transitional strategies to show a progression of ideas from the beginning to the endan introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has support and evidence that supports the author's opinion.The essay includes some of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">relevant evidence integrated into the essaysome general, imprecise, and inconsistent evidencesome domain-specific vocabularysome precise and general languagesome domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for audience and purposesome varied sentence structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions.The author may have some minor errors in usage, but there are no patterns of errors in capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. |
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is somewhat focused on its purpose, audience, and task.The author's opinion is unclear or unclear.The essay may include extraneous details.The essay has an inconsistent organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">an opinion that is insufficient or unclearinsufficient transitional strategiesbeginning to the endan inadequate introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has inconsistent and unclear support for the author's opinion.The author does not effectively use sources, facts, or details.The essay may include some of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">irrelevant or ineffective evidencerepetitive or ineffective elaborationimprecise ideasimprecise and general languageimprecise domain-specific vocabularysimple sentence constructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions.The author may have some minor errors in usage, but there are no patterns of errors in capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. |
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay is related to the topic, purpose, audience, and task.The author does not include an opinion.There is no organizational structure.The essay has an inconsistent organizational structure.The essay includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">no opinion or no opinionextraneous detailsfew or no transitional strategieslittle | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay has minimal support or evidence for the author's opinion.The author uses little or no sources, facts, or details.The essay may include some of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">irrelevant or unrelated evidenceunclear or confusing expression of ideasimprecise domain-specific vocabularysimple sentence constructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The essay demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions.The author may have some minor errors in usage, but there are no patterns of errors in capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. |

Opinion Writing Rubric

ABOUT LEXILE LEVELS



MagiCore Learning, LLC is a certified Lexile® Partner. These texts are officially measured and approved by Lexile and MetaMetrics® to ensure appropriate rigor and differentiation for students.

The Lexile Framework® for Reading measures are scientific, quantitative text levels. When the Lexile of a text is measured, specific, measurable attributes of the text are considered, including, but not limited to, word frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. These are difficult attributes for humans to evaluate, so a computer measures them.

Common Core State Standards uses Lexile level bands as one measure of text complexity. Text complexity ranges ensure that students are college and career ready by the end of 12th grade. Lexile measures help educators scaffold and differentiate instruction, as well as monitor reading growth.

| Grade Band | Lexile® Bands Aligned to Common Core Expectations |
|------------|---|
| K-1 | 190L-530L |
| 2-3 | 420L-820L |
| 4-5 | 740L-1010L |
| 6-8 | 925L-1185L |

Keep in mind when using any leveled text that many students will need scaffolding and support to reach text at the high end of their grade band. According to Appendix A of the Common Core Standards, "It is important to recognize that scaffolding often is entirely appropriate. The expectation that scaffolding will occur with particularly challenging texts is built into the Standards' grade-by-grade text complexity expectations, for example. The general movement, however, should be toward decreasing scaffolding and increasing independence both within and across the text complexity bands defined in the Standards."



Source I: Bringing the Ocean to Humans

There has been a lot of criticism of aquariums in the media. Many of the claims made are untrue. Aquariums have wonderful benefits. They help marine animals and the humans that visit them.

Aquariums bring the ocean to people. Most people are unable to observe large marine mammals in their natural habitats. Aquariums make it possible for people to observe and learn about large marine mammals. Educating people about marine animals is extremely important. Visiting an aquarium can connect people to marine animals, which makes people more likely to want to help these beautiful creatures.

Also, aquariums have helped scientists conduct research. Studying whales and dolphins in aquariums has taught us about how they live and behave. SeaWorld experts alone have published over 300 scientific studies. Additionally, SeaWorld has partnered with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and pledged \$10 million to fund research and conservation for wild killer whales.

Whales and other marine mammals living in aquariums enjoy the interactions they have with humans. Training gives them the physical and mental exercise they need. They have chances to play, learn, and exercise. A dolphin trainer at the Georgia Aquarium stated, "By building strong relationships with these dolphins, we create a bond and level of trust that allows us to train these critical behaviors."

Aquariums are wonderful places that benefit human visitors and the animals that live in them. You can support your local aquarium by visiting or donating to their cause.



Source 2: The Dark Side of Aquariums

Seeing graceful dolphins and enormous whales up close in an aquarium is amazing. Most people are fascinated by these amazing creatures. However, what is the price that is being paid for people to be entertained by these majestic sea mammals?

Dolphins and whales that live in aquariums are forced into small habitats. This is unnatural. In nature, dolphins and whales live in wide-open oceans. They swim long distances every day. In aquariums, they do not have the space to move freely. This can cause whales and dolphins to become frustrated and upset. They spend their days in small tanks and are forced to perform tricks.

Dolphins and whales that live in aquariums have been kidnapped. Many were taken from their natural habitats to be put into aquariums. These mammals were separated from their families. This is heartbreaking because dolphins and whales are known to form strong bonds with their families.

Dolphins and whales are very advanced. Their brains are almost as large as human brains. Some people believe that their brains are even more complex than human brains. These animals have personalities and can feel emotions. We should respect these marine mammals and keep them in their natural environment.



Orcas in the Wild



An Orca in Captivity

Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Prompt

Some people believe that aquariums are beneficial. Some people believe that aquariums are harmful. Write an essay in which you give your opinion about whether people should or should not visit aquariums. Use information from the passages in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can:

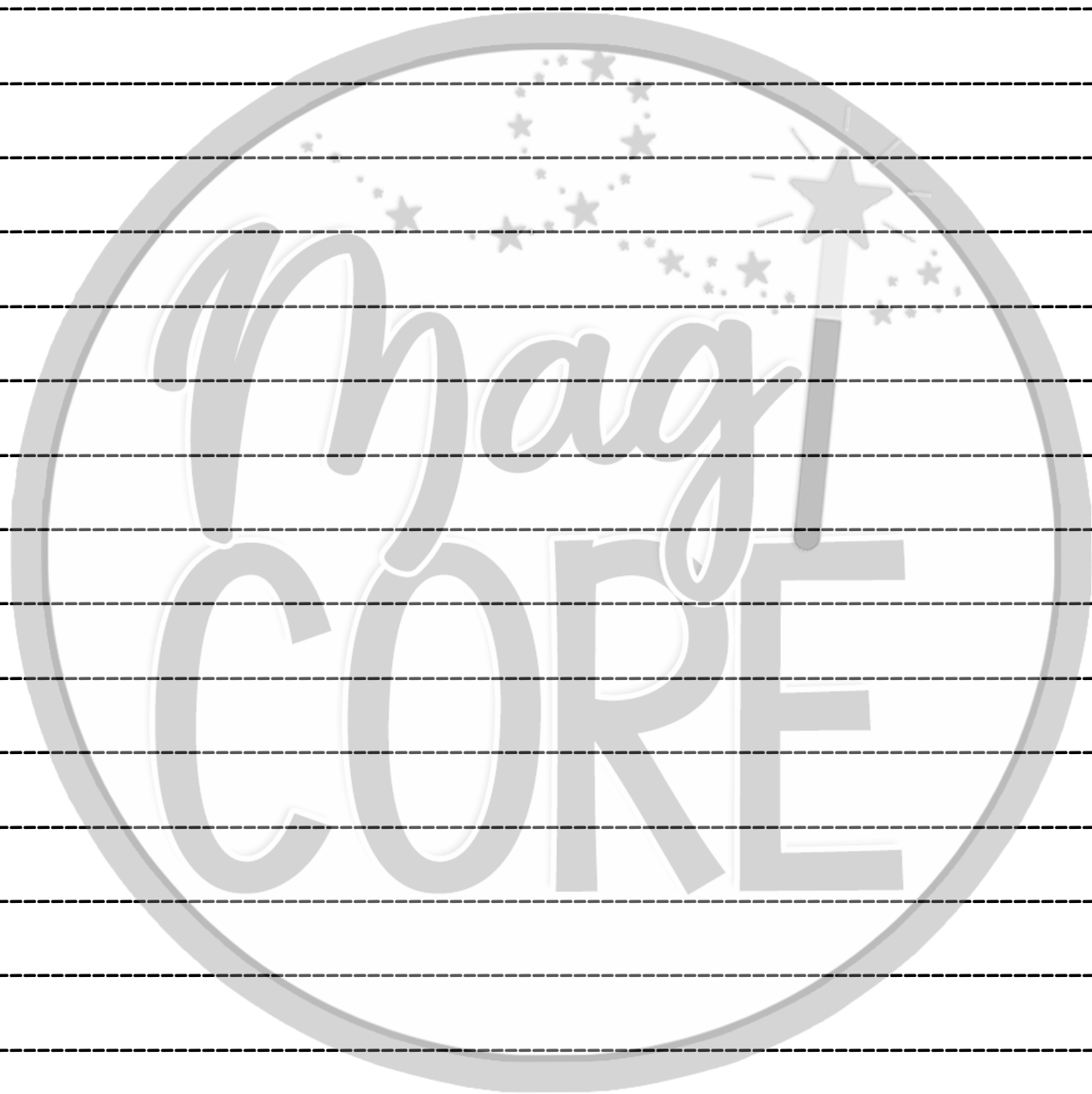
- read the passages
- plan your response
- write your response
- revise and edit your response

Be sure to include

- an introduction
- support for your opinion using information from the passages
- a conclusion that is related to your opinion.

Your response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph essay. Write your response in the space provided.

Name: _____ Date: _____



SAMPLE RESPONSES

These sample responses can be used to help guide your prompt writing instruction. Here are some tips for using sample responses:

1. **Evaluate:** Use the prompts that scored a 4 on the rubric to help you evaluate student responses.
2. **Model writing techniques:** Use sample prompt responses to model writing techniques for students. By analyzing the responses, teachers can point out how the writer uses specific strategies like organization, evidence, and transitions to support their argument. Teachers can then encourage students to use these techniques in their own writing.
3. **Facilitate discussions:** Teachers can use sample prompt responses to facilitate classroom discussions about writing. By asking questions about the responses, teachers can encourage students to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of each response, as well as identify common themes and patterns.
4. **Student analysis:** Have students revise the lower scoring responses to score a 4 on the rubric.
5. **Identify common mistakes:** Teachers can use sample prompt responses to identify common mistakes that students make in their writing. By pointing out these mistakes, teachers can help students learn to avoid them in their own writing.

Prompt #1

Writing prompt: The debate about whether or not it is important to eat organic foods is becoming more popular. Write an essay in which you give your opinion about whether people should or should not support organic farms. Use information from the passages in your essay.

Sample response (4)

When you are shopping in the produce section of the grocery store, you probably notice the sections labeled "Organic." These fruits and vegetables are grown differently than non-organic fruits and vegetables. They are grown on organic farms. Some people don't support organic farms. In my opinion, however, everyone should support organic farms because non-organic foods are full of harmful chemicals, non-organic farms treat animals poorly, and growing organic food is better for the environment.

Did you know that organic foods are required to meet specific standards from the USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) in order to be labeled organic? This means that the USDA guarantees the organic food you are buying has not been grown on a farm that uses harmful chemicals such as pesticides. Non-organic farms use many harmful chemicals to treat their crops as well as their animals. Even the milk from cows on non-organic farms is not as healthy as organic milk because the cows are raised on GMOs, or genetically modified organisms, which is food created in a lab. Purchasing food that was grown on an organic farm guarantees that those harmful chemicals will stay out of your body.

In addition to taking care of ourselves, we should also make sure that animals are well taken care of. Animals on non-organic farms are not treated as well as animals on organic farms. Some animals on non-organic farms never even get to go outside or see the sunshine. They are crowded into small spaces and given hormones to make them grow and produce more for the farmers. On the other hand, animals on organic farms must be able to spend time outside and enjoy life outside of a cage. They must be kept safe and given clean places to live. They are given healthier food to eat themselves. As you can see, animals on organic farms are treated with more care and live much better lives.

Finally, we should support organic farms because doing so can help the environment. The harmful chemicals used on non-organic farms can cause pollution, which we know can harm our environment. According to the passage Eat Organic, the National Quality Water Inventory found that this type of pollution in the U.S. is actually hurting the quality of the water in our lakes and rivers more than any other type of pollution. This shows that non-organic farms are harming our environment. Since organic farms don't use these types of chemicals, they are not making a negative impact on the environment like non-organic farms are.

Next time you're standing in the grocery store and you see the "Organic" label, be sure to choose those foods instead of the ones without it. Doing so can help support organic farms, which will also help keep your body free from harmful chemicals, it will help support the fair and humane treatment of animals, and it will help keep our environment clean.

Prompt #1

Sample response (in need of revision)

I think that everyone should support organic farms. Organic farms don't use chemicals like non-organic farms do. Organic farms treat animals better than non-organic farms. Organic farms are also better for the environment.

Non-organic farms use a lot of chemicals. When you eat non-organic food, the chemicals go into your body and can be bad for you. Organic farms aren't allowed to use chemicals, so when you eat organic food, you won't get the chemicals in your body.

Animals that live on non-organic farms are also given chemicals and they are kept in cages with no room to move around. This makes the animals not healthy or happy. The animals should be able to run around and eat healthy food like they do on an organic farm.

Non-organic farms are bad for the environment. The chemicals are bad for the environment too and they cause pollution. Organic farms don't cause pollution to the environment.

Everyone should support organic farms instead of non-organic farms because organic farms don't use chemicals, they treat animals better, and they are better for the environment.

| Opinion Writing Rubric | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| Name: _____ | | | Date: _____ | | |
| Score | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Purpose, Focus, & Organization (4 points) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is consistently focused on its purpose, audience, and task. The author's opinion is clearly stated. The essay has an effective organizational structure. <p>The essay includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a strong opinion with no unrelated details an effective use of transitional strategies to show relationships between ideas a logical progression of ideas from the beginning to the end a satisfying introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is mostly focused on its purpose, audience, and task. The author's opinion is stated. The essay has an organizational structure. <p>The essay includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a clear opinion, though some loosely related details may be included some transitional strategies to show relationships between ideas a progression of ideas from the beginning to the end an introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is somewhat focused on its purpose, audience, and task. The author's opinion is insufficient or unclear. The author may include extraneous details. The essay has an inconsistent organizational structure. <p>The essay includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an opinion that is insufficient or unclear insufficient transitional strategies an uneven progression of ideas from the beginning to the end an inadequate introduction and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay is related to the topic. The essay shows little awareness of the purpose, audience, or task. The author does not include an opinion. There is no organizational structure. The essay has an inconsistent organizational structure. <p>The essay includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an unclear opinion or no opinion extraneous details few or no transitional strategies brevery | |
| Evidence & Elaboration (4 points) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has thorough and convincing support and evidence that supports the author's opinion. The author uses sources, facts, and details. <p>The essay includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> relevant evidence integrated into the essay references to sources a demonstration of understanding of the topic and text effective and precise expression of language academic and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose varied sentence structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has support and evidence that supports the author's opinion. The author uses sources, facts, and details. <p>The essay includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evidence integrated into the essay that may be general, imprecise, and inconsistent some elaborative techniques precise and general language domain-specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose some varied sentence structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has inconsistent and unclear support for the author's opinion. The author does not effectively use sources, facts, or details. <p>The essay may include some of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> weak evidence repetitive or ineffective elaboration imprecise ideas inappropriate use of domain-specific vocabulary simple sentence constructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay has minimal support or evidence for the author's opinion. The author uses little or no sources, facts, or details. <p>The essay may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimal or unrelated evidence unclear or confusing expression of ideas limited or inappropriate language and vocabulary simple sentence constructions | |
| English Conventions (2 points) | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions. The author may have some minor errors in usage, but there are no patterns of errors. There is an adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The essay demonstrates some command of basic conventions. The author may have various errors in usage. There is inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence structure, and spelling. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The author lacks conventions. There are frequent errors that obstruct the meaning. |

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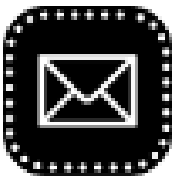
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