

Literacy Performance Task Samples

Identify the 6 Shifts in these Samples

Example Common Core Performance Task

English Language Arts & Literacy

Richard Wright struggles to find his 'place' in society. He refuses to forgo his morality and beliefs to conform to the status quo. Examine Wright's pride. Find examples in the text that demonstrate the influence pride has on Wright's actions. How does his pride influence his decisions? Is pride a positive or negative influence in Wright's life? How does Wright's pride affect how his family members treat him?"

Example Annotated Student Work

Wright's pride prompts him to make principled decisions and carry out actions that illustrate his morality and inherent beliefs. Wright refuses to neglect his values and chooses right over wrong even when he recognizes that failure to adhere to what is expected of him will ultimately result in negative and often violent consequences. When he receives the title of valedictorian and refuses to read the speech prepared for him by his principal, choosing instead to present his own speech in spite of the threat of being held back, Wright's pride is demonstrated. Although he comprehends the consequences and the gravity of his decision, Wright refuses to compromise his beliefs: "I know that I'm not educated, professor . . . But the people are coming to hear the students, and I won't make a speech that you've written" (174). Though urged by his family members and his classmates to avoid conflict and to comply with the principal's demand, Wright refuses because he does not believe it is the morally correct thing to do....

The Student organizes complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole.

Student uses appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.

The Student develops the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples knowledge of the topic.

Example Common Core Performance Task

English Language Arts & Literacy

You have read information from three sources about media in daily life or in world affairs. When you consider what all these different sources say about the effects of media use:

What are the gains?

What are the dangers for the lives of young people? And for a larger society?

Write a short (750 words) essay in which you:

Explain what's at stake: Why does this issue matter?

Develop and state your own position.

Defend your position with a range of different types of evidence (interviews, research data, and newspaper reports, etc.).

Example Annotated Student Work

Student uses appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.

Student establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions.

→ ...Furthermore, Facebook, YouTube, and MySpace are a few examples of social networking that pull youth off track. For example, in "Fast Times at Woodside High", Vishnal a bright 17-year old was not able to finish the book Kurt Vonnegut's Cat's Cradle, his summer reading assignment, but he managed to read only 43 pages in two months. Vishnal's lack of academic proficiency was due to Facebook and creating videos for YouTube.

→ Additionally, according to "Media Use" children spend two hours and 46 minutes on average on the computer and about 48 minutes reading. This shows us that kids are losing their educational interest because of the media. Also the youth are not being productive enough sitting in front of a TV screen. According to Smith, for each "additional hour a student watches TV, they 5 times less likely to participate in school sports". This can also lead to health issues and result in obese children, because kids no longer want to participate in activities outside but instead sit and watch TV.

The Student develops the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples knowledge of the topic.