

Pg 34 -10/28 – Analyzing a Writing Prompt

WRITING TASK:

You belong to a science club that is very concerned about **the potential connection between human activity and global warming**. The club decides to address this concern by urging students to **take steps to conserve energy in their daily lives**.

Write a *persuasive essay for your school paper* in which you convince readers of the importance of taking action to decrease energy usage. Convince your readers through the use of specific reasons and examples.

Pg 34 -10/28 – Analyzing a Writing Prompt

Solution/Claim/Thesis – Students of Sylmar, we must take action and save energy to help stop global warming.

Audience – students, parents, staff, people who read the Sylmar HS paper.

Problem/Reason – ...because there is a potential connection between human activity and global warming.

| | |
|---|--|
| Intro–main idea/thesis/claim, hook or grabber sentence – makes the reader interested, pulls them in, makes them want to read more, state the problem | |
| Body - | |
| Conclusion | |

Page 35 – Global Warming Intro

Write an introductory paragraph using the images you saw in the movie to hook your reader into being interested in global warming (the problem). Then give them your thesis/claim (tell them how to solve the problem).

We are in **tremendous danger**. Global warming is **killing people** all over the world. Floods, tornadoes and hurricanes **destroy cities** and towns. Climate change is causing droughts that lead to **starvation**. Imagine **people wasting away, skin and bone**, **flies landing on a child's face**. **Horrible, scorching** fires are burning up our forests. Even **violent, bloody wars** are fought due to this **serious problem**. You may not think that as a student at Sylmar High School that there is anything you can do to help solve this **terrible problem**, but you can. **We can all take steps to conserve energy in our daily life to help reduce the problems that cause global warming.**

Notice how the introductory paragraph conveys a **frightened** tone.

11/3 – Pg41 – Global Warming Intro Rewrite

On page 41, REWRITE your GLOBAL WARMING INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH and make sure you choose words (diction) with strong connotation to convey a clear tone. Highlight or underline the words.

Global warming is killing us! Floods, hurricanes and tornadoes tear through cities, ripping up the homes of innocent people. Drought brings starvation to millions. Fires are destroying our forests. This is a serious problem being caused by human activity. However, there is something that we students of Sylmar can do to help solve this problem. **We must conserve energy in our daily lives.**

This checklist will help you write your essay.

- 1 - Read and understand the task completely and carefully.
- 2 - State your position and support it with specific details, reasons, anecdotes, and examples.
- 3 - Think of your audience and address their concerns.
- 4 - Use words that are appropriate for your audience.

5 - Use descriptive words to make your ideas clear.

6 - Make sure your essay has an introduction, body, and conclusion.

7 - Use a variety of sentence types.

8 - Review for errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

Happy Halloween!

Pg 36 -10/29 – Analyzing a Writing Prompt

You belong to a school leadership group that is very concerned about bullying and the harmful effects it has on young people. The leadership group decides to address this concern by urging students to join the student alliance for tolerance and safety from bullies.

Write a persuasive essay for your school paper in which you convince readers of the importance of joining the student alliance for tolerance and safety. Convince your readers through the use of specific reasons and examples.

Thesis – Students should join the student alliance for tolerance and safety from bullies.

Reason – ...because bullying has harmful effects on young people.

Write an emotional anecdote for an introduction paragraph, then the claim.

People kill themselves from being bullied. Tyler Clementi was a sweet, innocent teenager. He thought he was finally free, in his college dorm room, to finally get some privacy and have some sex. Little did he know that his evil roommate would video his encounter with another man and broadcast it online. He felt very depressed and humiliated. So, he jumped off the bridge. That's why bullying can be some harmful and why we need to join the student alliance for tolerance and safety.

Tyler Clementi thought he was finally free. Out of his parents home and living in the dorm, he'd finally be able to have some sex without being bothered. Little did he know that his hater of a roommate was going to video his encounter with another man and broadcast it for everyone to see. His heart was broken. He was crushed, devastated. This one simple act convinced him that people are so cruel and hateful that there is no point in living, so he jumped of the George Washington bridge. Tragic. Bullying is a series problem, not only there, but here at our school. And kids who are bullied are seriously harmed, and many even kill themselves. That is why we students must join together in the alliance for tolerance and safety.

Nov 1 – Page 38 – Creating Tone with Connotation

Academic Vocabulary

Tone is a writer's attitude (emotion) towards his or her subject. A writer can communicate tone through **diction** (choice of words), by choosing words with a strong positive or negative **connotation** (emotional association).

A **rational** (reasonable) tone is often considered to be the most credible. However, it can also be considered boring and fail to hook a reader or listener's attention. Therefore, it is recommended that a writer or speaker find a balance between a **reasonable** (rational) tone and a consistent emotional tone.

Tone is often described using several emotion words.

Examples: The writer of "Music To Whose Ears" shows a happy and fun tone towards listening to loud music in cars, a reasonable tone when arguing against the proposed law, and an irritated tone towards his neighbor's lawnmower.

Sojourner truth uses an insulting and belittling tone towards the white men who oppose women's and Negroes' rights, and a respectful tone towards women and Negroes. She also expresses a tone of grief towards her lost children.