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Issue&Argument 满分范文

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GRE 满分范文

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写作要求

新 GRE 作文自从 2011 年 8 月 1 日改革后, 如今的 issue 有了 6 种写作指令 (写作要求), 增加了这些写作要求后, 很显然, 目的之一就是防止考生背模板 (argument 依然是可以背模板的)。

比较遗憾的是, 市面上基本没有一本写作书是提供新 GRE 写作的满分范文给大家的。为了更好地帮助考生备考, 我们团队把这些写作指令单独列出来。提供一些满分范文给大家看看, 不同的写作指令到底是如何进行 response 的。当然, 我们提供的范文里, 也无法做到每一种写作要求都提供了满分范文, 这个我们在以后有机会再逐渐完善, 更新给大家, 更新详情请关注微信平台: 维夕教育。需要提醒的是, 所有的范文都保留了作者在考场里的原文章, 包括哪些可能错误的标点, 拼写等问题。

--上校 于广州

1. Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement **might or might not hold true** and explain how these considerations shape your position.
2. Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe **specific circumstances** in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.
3. Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to **challenge** your position.
4. Discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should address **both of the views** presented.
5. Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the **claim and reason**, on which that claim is based.
6. Discuss your views on the policy and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider the **possible consequences** of implementing the policy and explain how these consequences shape your position.



ISSUE

范文 1- specific circumstances 类型

The best way to teach is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe **specific circumstances** in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

满分范文

The recommendation presents a view that I would agree is successful most of the time, but one that I cannot fully support due to the “all or nothing” impression it gives.

Certainly as an educator I agree fully that the best way to elicit positive response from students is to make use of students’ positive energy and then encourage actions that you would like to see repeated. It is human nature that we all want to be accepted and achieve on some level, and when people in authority provide feedback that we have done something well, the drive to repeat the action that was praised is bound to be particularly strong.

This blanket statement would obviously pay dividends in situations in which a teacher desires to have students repeat particular behaviors. For example, if an educator is attempting to teach students proper classroom etiquette, it would be appropriate to openly praise a student who raises his or her hand when wishing to speak or address the class. In such cases, the teacher may also help shape positive behaviors by ignoring a student who is trying to interject without approval from the teacher. In fact, the decision to ignore students who are exhibiting inappropriate behaviors of this type could work very well in this situation, as the stakes are not very high and the intended outcome can likely be achieved by such a method. However, it is important to note here that this tactic would only be effective in such a “low-stakes” situation, as when a student speaks without raising her hand first. As we will discuss below, ignoring a student who hits another student, or engages in more serious misbehaviors, would not be effective or prudent. To expand on this point, it is important for teachers to be careful when working with the second half of this statement, only ignoring negative actions that are not serious. Take for instance a student who is misbehaving just by chatting with a fellow class - mate. This student might not be presenting much of a problem and may be simply seeking attention. Ignoring the student might, in fact, be the best solution. Now assume the negative action is the improper administering of chemicals in a science experiment or the bullying of a fellow student. To ignore these negative actions would be absurd and negligent. Now you are allowing a problem to persist, one that could potentially lead to much bigger and more dangerous issues. In a more serious situation, addressing the negative actions quickly and properly could stop the problem in its tracks. It is for reasons like this that I do not advocate the idea that a teacher can be successful by simply ignoring negative actions.

I do, however, greatly support the idea that the central focus of teaching should be to build on and encourage positive actions. However, the author’s all-encompassing statement leaves too many negative possibilities for the classroom. Perhaps a better way to phrase this statement would be to say, “The best way to teach is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones that are not debilitating to class efficiency or the safety of any individual”.

Thus, in the original statement, there are indeed some good intentions, and there could be a lot of merit in adopting its basic principles. Data proves that positive support can substantially increase motivation and desire in students and contribute to positive achievements. In fact, most studies of teaching efficacy indicate that praising positive actions and ignoring negative ones can create a more stable and efficient classroom. It needs to be stressed, however, that this tool is only effective at certain levels of misbehavior. As mentioned above, when the behavior is precipitated by feelings of revenge, power or total self-worthlessness, this methodology will likely not work. It is likely to be very successful, however, when the drive behind the misbehavior is simple attention seeking. In many of these instances, if the teacher demonstrates clearly that inappropriate behavior does not result in the gaining of attention, students are more likely to seek attention by behaving properly. Should the student choose this path, then the ignoring has worked and when the positive behavior is exhibited, then the teacher can utilize the first part of the

theory and support or praise this behavior. Now it is much more likely to be repeated. If the student does not choose this path and instead elects to raise the actions to a higher level that presents a more serious issue, then ignorance alone cannot work and other methods must be employed.

In conclusion, one can appreciate the credo expressed in this instance, but surely we all can see the potential error of following it through to the extreme.

考官评论

This response receives a 6 for its well-articulated, insightful analysis of the issue. Rather than simply rejecting or accepting the prompt, the writer argues that the recommendation made by the prompt can often be true but is too “all or nothing” to be endorsed without qualification. The writer turns this idea into an insightful position by providing examples and evidence to fully and persuasively support its nuanced argument. The response offers nicely detailed situations that provide compelling support for a claim that the recommendation can, in fact, work. At the same time, it also highlights the recommendation’s limits using additional specific, detailed examples. Particularly persuasive is the fourth paragraph, in which the writer compares the impact of ignoring minor behavioral problems like talking in class to the potential costs of ignoring more serious issues like bullying. Thus, the writer recognizes that the prompt’s claim, as well as his/her own, is inevitably dependent on the specific context for its success or failure. Throughout the response, the writer demonstrates the ability to convey ideas fluently and precisely, using effective vocabulary and sentence variety. This sentence demonstrates the level of language facility seen throughout the response: “It is human nature that we all want to be accepted and achieve on some level, and when people in authority provide feedback that we have done something well, the drive to repeat the action that was praised is bound to be particularly strong.”

5 分范文

I partially agree with the statement “The best way to teach is to praise positive actions and ignore negative ones”. Children should be rewarded when they perform well; however, they should not be ignored for performing sub-optimally. For purposes of this essay, the term “actions” is defined as behaviors within the classroom.

Utilizing positive reinforcements, such as tangible rewards, can be a good method to teach children. If the teacher praises children for actions that are desirable, then the children are more likely to repeat those actions. For example, a student who completes an assignment on time and does a good job is likely to want to do a good job on the next assignment if he gets positive feedback. Likewise, the children who are not currently engaging in the desirable actions may be more inclined to do so in order to receive the positive reinforcement.

Conversely, children should not be ignored for negative actions. If a child is not exhibiting appropriate behavior in the classroom, then it is the teacher’s responsibility to encourage the child to perform optimally. Ignoring something doesn’t make it go away, actions and consequences do. A student who is being disruptive in class will continue to be disruptive unless the teacher does something about it. However, the teacher’s actions need be appropriate.

Before the teacher attempts to modify a child’s behavior, the teacher needs to try and identify the reason behind the behavior. For instance, children who leave their seat often, stare in to space, or call out of turn may be initially viewed as having poor behavior. However, the teacher may suspect that the child has an attentional problem, and request that the child be tested. If the child does have an attentional problem, then the teacher can work with a related service, such as occupational therapy, to alter the classroom environment in order to cater to the needs of the child. For instance, the teacher could remove some of the stimulating bulletin board displays to make the room more calming to the child. If the child becomes more attentive in class then the teacher was able to assist the child without scolding them or ignoring them. The teacher met the needs of the child and created an environment to enable the child to optimally perform in the educational setting.

On the other hand, if the child is tested, and does not have any areas of concern that may be impacting the educational performance in the classroom, then the negative behavior may strictly be due to defiance. In such a case, the teacher still should not ignore the child, because the negative actions may hinder the learning opportunity for the remaining children in the class. As a result, a child who is being disruptive to the learning process of the class should be set apart from the class so that they do not receive the positive reinforcement of peer attention.

The teacher should not ignore the student who is misbehaving, but that does not mean that the teacher just needs to punish. It is better to address the child privately and make sure the child is aware of the negative actions. Once the child is aware, then the teacher should once again try to determine the reason why the child is behaving in a negative manner. Perhaps the child’s parents are in the middle of a divorce and the child is outwardly expressing his frustration in the classroom. Or the academic content of the class may not be challenging enough for the child and so he is misbehaving out of boredom. Whatever the reason behind the behavior, the key factor is that the teacher works with the child to try and identify it. Simply punishing or ignoring the child would not solve the problem, whereas working to create a plan for success in the classroom would. Likewise, rather than punishing and defeating the child, the teacher is working with and empowering the child; a much more positive outcome to the situation.

考官评论

This strong response presents a thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the issue. In this case the writer argues that teachers need to modify their approach based on context and observation, meaning that a blanket approach cannot be successful. The writer supports this position with relevant reasons and examples that present logically sound support. Note that the task instructions ask writers to discuss circumstances in which adopting the recommendation might or might not prove advantageous, and this response does that quite clearly. In the second paragraph, the writer gives an example of a student who completes an assignment on time and receives positive feedback, showing how the recommendation could prove advantageous. Other examples show circumstances in which adopting the recommendation would not be a good idea, and these various points are brought together to support the writer's position that teachers have to look at the context of the situation and cannot rely on simply ignoring negative actions. This response also demonstrates facility with language, using appropriate vocabulary and sentence variety. Sentences like this one demonstrate the writer's command of the conventions of standard written English: "If the child does have an attentional problem, then the teacher can work with a related service, such as occupational therapy, to alter the classroom environment in order to cater to the needs of the child."

There are some minor errors, but overall the response demonstrates strong control of language. Although the response is clearly stronger than a 4, which would simply present a clear position on the issue according to the task instructions, it does not reach the level of a 6 because it does not develop its points in a way that creates a cogent and insightful position. It does, however, present a generally thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the issue, leading to a score of 5.

4 分范文

I absolutely agree with the first section of the statement above, but find fault with the latter half.

There is no doubt that praising positive actions is an excellent way to teach, and this method is most clearly exemplified when dealing with much younger children. When a young child is learning basic social behavior, it is imperative that he is encouraged to repeat positive actions. For example, when a child voluntarily shares his toys with another, if a teacher rewards that behavior, the child will understand that this is a good practice, and likely share again in the future.

In contrast, if a child displays negative behavior by stealing a toy away from his playmate, it would be very dangerous for the teacher to ignore this action, for then the child may never recognize that this is unacceptable. In this instance, the child has not learned from the situation at all. So what should a teacher do when faced with such a situation? Punishment is not necessarily the optimal choice, either. Rather than scolding a child for mistreating his playmates and sending him off to a corner, a teacher would be wise to demonstrate the positive alternative: to share his toys instead. In this case, rather than ignoring or punishing negative actions, the teacher could seize the opportunity to reinforce positive behavior, and further extend the child's learning experience.

In summary, positive reinforcement is certainly an excellent method for teaching new methods or behaviors, and encouraging a student to learn more. However to ignore, rather than recognize and correct negative actions, would be a disservice to the student, for he would not know what conclusion to draw from his action.

考官评论

This adequate response follows the task directions and presents a clear position on the issue, supporting its main points with examples that are relevant, if only adequately developed. For instance, the discussion in the second paragraph of a teacher who reinforces the positive behavior of sharing a toy is certainly relevant and on-task (i.e., it describes a situation in which adopting the recommendation would be advantageous). However, the development of this idea does not lead to generally thoughtful or insightful analysis. Instead, it is simply presented as an example. In addition to its adequate development, this response also demonstrates sufficient control of the conventions of standard written English, and its main points are made with reasonable clarity. Some of the sentences demonstrate the syntactical variety normally seen in responses that receive higher scores (e.g., "Rather than scolding a child for mistreating his playmates and sending him off to a corner, a teacher would be wise to demonstrate the positive alternative: to share his toys instead"). However, the overall use of language in this response is merely adequate.

3 分范文

Praising positive actions and ignoring negative ones may be a good way to teach but not the best way. Ignoring negative actions could negate all the positive praises given to an individual, having negative actions go unchecked will lead to habits formed that would overwhelm any positive actions that are complementary to an individual's learning process.

For instance, in a classroom full of eight-year old kids; if during a lesson they are making a lot of noise, having this ignored would tell the kids that it is okay to be disruptive in class. The individuals in that class would develop the habit of being disruptive hence hindering their learning process. However if the eight-year old kids were immediately told to stop the disruption then it will never become a habit.

Every action needs to have a related consequence follow in a learning environment. In the early years of education, the way they are taught becomes a lifelong habit which is hard to change in later years. If negative actions are not assigned a related consequence then teaching becomes ineffective because the student's negative actions soon diminish the ability to do well in school. The way positive actions are dealt with should also be done with negative actions rather than being ignored which in turn enhance the learning environment.

考官评论

Although this response has minor errors in its use of language, it receives a 3 primarily for insufficient overall clarity and for the limited development of its claims. The writer does make an attempt to follow the specific task instructions, and the response has a clear position on the issue, arguing that it is not acceptable practice to ignore negative behaviors. However, the development provided in support of that position is limited. The example of "eight-year old kids" making noise during class can be seen as a situation in which following the recommendation is not advantageous. Instead of developing that point in a logically persuasive way, however, the writer proceeds to make an unsupported assertion about the consequences of following the recommendation ("The individuals in that class would develop the habit of being disruptive hence hindering their learning process"). Another issue that keeps this response at the 3 level is a lack of clarity, particularly in the final paragraph. The final sentence demonstrates this problem with clarity: "The way positive actions are dealt with should also be done with negative actions rather than being ignored which in turn enhance the learning environment." Problems with the structure of this sentence make it difficult to determine the writer's intended meaning.

范文 2- specific circumstances 类型

“A nation should require all of its students to study the same national curriculum until they enter college.”

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the recommendation and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, describe **specific circumstances** in which adopting the recommendation would or would not be advantageous and explain how these examples shape your position.

NOTE: All responses are reproduced exactly as written, including errors, misspellings, etc., if any.

满分范文

Nations should not require that all students study the same national curriculum. If every child were presented with the same material, it would assume that all children learn the same and that all teachers are capable of teaching the same material in the same way. In addition to neglecting differences in learning and teaching styles, it would also stifle creativity and create a generation of drones. The uniformity would also lend itself to governmental meddling in curriculum that could result in the destruction of democracy. If every teacher is forced to teach a certain text, the government need only change that text to misinform an entire generation. Lastly, a standardized curriculum would also adversely affect students who come from lower income families or families who have little education as they might not have as many resources for learning outside of school.

Children all learn in very different ways. If the curriculum is standardized completely, it leaves little room for exploratory learning. One child may learn how to spell from reading, another may learn from phonics. If the curriculum is standardized, suppose one aspect is dropped, that may exclude certain children from learning adequately. This is not to say of course that there shouldn't be requirements, but they should be general requirements, not something so specific as a curriculum. Especially at the high school level this would be detrimental to the variety of subjects that a student can learn. Standards and the "No Child Left Behind" act in America are already forcing the reduction in programs such as art and music that have a less defineable curriculum. Additionally, education systems are rarely funded well enough to achieve the general goal of educating children. If a national curriculum were implemented, would it come with a significant increase in financial support? History suggests that it would not.

Teachers also have different methods of teaching; if say, the English curriculum of all high schools were standardized, then a book that one teacher teaches excellently and therefore inspires students to read more and learn on their own might be eliminated, and although that teacher ought to be capable enough to teach the curriculum books, his or her students will still be missing out on what might have been a great learning experience. It also limits how much of the teacher's unique knowledge he or she can bring to the classroom. It is these inspirational books or experiences that allow teachers to reach students; if they are put in a mold, the quality of teaching and learning will go down.

Learning should be enjoyable and children and adolescents should be taught not only the curriculum in school, but that the body of knowledge that exists in the world today is enormous and that you can learn your whole life. Having a national curriculum implies that there is a set group of things worth learning for every person. Maybe this is true, but for students, it sets up a world where there is a finite amount of knowledge to be acquired for the purpose of regurgitating it on a test. Teaching a standard curriculum doesn't encourage inquiries; it doesn't make students ask questions like, "Why?" and "How?" School's real purpose is teaching people to learn, not just teaching them a set group of facts. By teaching them to learn, students can continue doing so, they can extend skills from one area of knowledge to another. This type of learning fosters creativity that can be used not only in math or science or English, but in art or music or creative writing. Teaching a brain to go beyond being a file cabinet for facts is the best way to teach creativity. Creativity is too often assumed to be something only for the arts. It is creativity that results in innovation and it is innovation that has resulted in the greatest achievements of humanity in the sciences and humanities alike.

Finally, the education system of a country is designed to put all children on a level playing field. Though

this is only an ideal, it is a noble ideal. If the school curriculum becomes standardized, children who have highly educated parents, or more money to buy books outside of school, or more resources for tutors or private schools will immediately gain a foothold. Poorer students from uneducated families in the current American school system are already at a disadvantage, but at least now there is hope through variety that something can reach out to them and inspire them. There is hope that they can find a class that interests them. If the curriculum becomes rigid and standardized, it is these disadvantaged students who fall through the cracks.

There are many reasons not to standardize the curriculum. The uniqueness of students and teachers is the most obvious, but students from less educated backgrounds will suffer the most. The creativity of a nation as a whole would fall with a standardized curriculum. Most importantly though is the question of who and what? Who chooses the curriculum? What is important enough that it must be taught? These questions assume that there is some infallible committee that can foresee all and know what knowledge will be important in everyone's lives. There is no person, no group, no committee capable of deciding what knowledge is necessary. Curriculum should have standards, not be standardized and education should be as much about knowledge as it about learning to learn.

考官评论

This outstanding response develops an articulate and insightful position rejecting the prompt's recommendation of a national curriculum. The writer understands a national curriculum to mean both the material that is taught and the way it is taught. The essay offers a wide-ranging discussion of the practical and theoretical implications of a national curriculum for students, for teachers, and for a nation. For example, the response argues that prescribing particular content and teaching methods might make it more difficult for teachers to tailor lessons to students with different learning styles and might also force effective teachers to adopt teaching methods that are less effective for them and their students. Although the essay clearly rejects the recommendation for a national curriculum, the writer does concede that there is a need for educational standards that are flexible enough to allow for individual, socioeconomic, and regional differences.

The response maintains a well-focused, well-organized discussion, developing each point fully and connecting ideas logically without relying on obvious transitional phrases. The writing is fluent, despite minor errors in grammar and mechanics; sentence structure is varied and diction is effective. In sum, this response meets all of the criteria for a score of 6.

5 分范文

While it may be to the advantage of a nation that all its students learn the same basic information, this can be accomplished without going to the lengths of having a national curriculum. By requiring that all students know a certain amount in basic areas of knowledge without specifying the details, a nation can achieve the same benefits of a national curriculum without unduly denying the freedom of teachers to teach as they see fit. A system of simple national standards is good enough. To go further and create a full-fledged national curriculum would gain nothing and impair the ability of teachers.

It is important to ensure that all students learn the fundamentals of different subject areas. In order to graduate from high school, for example, all students should have a good understanding of algebra, of basic concepts in science and history, and an ability to read critically. These are skills that will benefit people in all kinds of different careers. Even if you never manipulate an equation after graduating from high school, you will have a far better understanding of the world around you if you know simple facts of math and science. Fields such as English and history are even more important, as they are absolutely necessary to maintain an informed citizenry capable of making important decisions that all citizens of a democracy are called upon to make. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to have national standards of education. Most teachers are very capable of imparting knowledge on students, and most school boards are similarly well-intentioned. Nevertheless, without national standards, some students are bound to fall through the cracks, and some school boards, under pressure from groups of parents, may eliminate certain subject matter from schools, as has happened recently with the teaching of evolution in conservative areas of the United States. In order to ensure that all students learn all that they need to know as functioning adults, some kind of national standards should be in place.

These national standards, however, need not go so far as to constitute a single national curriculum. No one knows a class of students better than its teachers, and no one else can shape a curriculum for their maximum benefit. A national curriculum would necessarily mean a one-size-fits-all approach, and what is appropriate in one classroom may not be in another. Partly this is a result of the intellectual levels of the students in question: some may be able to learn far more about a particular subject than others. But it is also a question of student goals. The desire for specialization begins before college. A student who wants to become an auto mechanic should be able to take auto shop classes, classes which would not be of interest to a future lawyer or scientist. This notion may sound unacceptably elitist in today's climate in which a college education has become almost an automatic goal of education, but it does not need to be this way. Students with limited interest in higher education should be able to opt out, to follow another curriculum that is more likely to lead to happiness later in life. As a society, we should not discourage them, but rather ensure that there are enough high-paying jobs available for skilled laborers with high school diplomas.

Everyone needs certain basic knowledge in order to function in society today. To this extent, we need national standards of instruction for students. But we do not need to cram every student into the same classes and force them to learn what we think is best for them.

考官评论

This strong response presents a generally thoughtful, well-developed analysis of the issue and conveys meaning clearly. The introductory paragraph clearly disagrees with the prompt's recommendation: "By requiring that all students know a certain amount in basic areas of knowledge without specifying the details,

a nation can achieve the same benefits of a national curriculum without unduly denying the freedom of teachers to teach as they see fit.” The writer supports this position by first arguing for the necessity of national standards, citing the individual’s need for fundamental knowledge in core areas, and by asserting that such knowledge makes for an informed, thoughtful citizenry. The discussion furthers this argument by examining some of the disadvantages of a rigid national curriculum, namely the inability of a national curriculum to accommodate students’ individual needs and interests.

The response develops its position with strong reasons and examples, though these reasons and examples are not always fully developed. For example, the response asserts that knowledge of English and history is “absolutely necessary to maintain an informed citizenry” and that “in order to achieve this, it is necessary to have national standards of education,” but it never really explains how or why national standards would result in better-informed citizens than regional standards or a national curriculum would.

The response maintains a clear focus and organization with clear and logical transitions. Although the response conveys ideas clearly and demonstrates facility with standard written English, it lacks the precision of expression necessary for the highest score. In sum, this response demonstrates all of the characteristics required to earn a score of 5.

4 分范文

As an educator, this topic is quite controversial to me. By having one set curriculum in the entire nation, students would be taught the same material. Students from the rural Texas will study the same thing as students in Brooklyn, NY and suburban Chicago. If they move from state to state, they will have covered the same material and they would be able to participate in class right away. You could also say that all students should have learned the same material, for which they should all be equal and should have the same opportunities. But it is unrealistic. I disagree with a national curriculum because all students are not the same, they have different interests, and this curriculum would not permit teachers to explore and teach to students interests.

First, a curriculum that becomes nation wide is supposed to teach all students the same material and perhaps the same way. All seventh graders will have to solve algebraic equations and then they will all be the same. But students are not the same. All children develop at different rates, they have different abilities. One cannot expect a child from Uptown Manhattan to be doing the same thing as the kids in southern Illinois. The conditions are different, they have different funding and quality of teachers. Parents involvement in their childrens education is different and that would affect what the students learn.

Besides having different abilities, the students have different interests or necessities. In one part of the nation it may be important to learn trigonometry and calculus because it is a high tech area. They use many computers and there might be a big market for careers in that field, but in another part of the country it might be more important to learn about farming and erosion. That the interest would be different. Teachers also need the freedom to teach what the students are interested in. If the kids want to know about the Chicano Movement, they should have the opportunity to learn about it, instead of learning about African American Civil Rights Movement. City kids are interested in different things than kids rural areas, as well as kids from the East Coast and the West Coast.

For these reasons I would have to disagree with a national curriculum. Children are different and they should have the right to learn about things they are interested in. Teachers should have the freedom to teach what he/she thinks is more important or interesting to their students. Teachers should teach their students, not a curriculum.

考官评论

This response presents a competent analysis of the issue and conveys meaning with acceptable clarity. The writer begins by acknowledging some of the perceived strengths of a national curriculum but then disagrees with the prompt, arguing that “all students are not the same, they have different interests, and this curriculum would not permit teachers to explore and teach to students interests.” The writer supports this position by suggesting that a standardized approach to education will fail to address the different types of students who make up a nation’s youth; for instance, students in two different geographical areas may be subject to different socioeconomic conditions as well as different cultural attitudes toward the role of education. The writer continues exploring the role of geography by pointing out that different areas naturally emphasize different aspects of curriculum based upon regional concerns and that a national curriculum would unfairly homogenize education.

The response is adequately focused and organized, and although it contains some errors, it demonstrates sufficient control of language in order to express its ideas.

3 分范文

Until now, many countries have mandatory course for their students until they enter the college. It is beneficial to students to have same amount knowledge in their schools. Also, I agree this recommendation because these reasons.

Even if students have extraordinary abilities to study, it just will be some specific parts of academic fields. Generally, most ordinary students have abilities to follow their study through their courses. For all students, if people want to be had same knowledge and same academic background, the national curriculum is essential. Of course, some people don't want to follow their mandatory courses so that someone takes private classes in their house or takes a different class in other substituted schools. However, if students want to enter the college, they have to take a national test, for example, SAT. Like this test will require generalized knowledge until in the high school. For preparing this test, every students have to study requisited courses of SAT. Even though some students take private courses, they also have to prepare these classes. Because of this, national curriculum is needed. If they do not need to take a test to enter the college, they won't prepare these classes. However, until now, every college wants to accept to be experimented students so that they need standardized test for everybody. Recently, even though national curriculum is becoming a social issue to criticize its efficiency, if governments don't change their policy about their educational programs, it has to exist in the education.

However, the same national curriculum has some troubles. If one student doesn't follow the same curriculum, this student will be failed to enter the college. The mandatory curriculum does not allow individual characteristics, some students who have surprisingly abilities for other fields, for example, playing chess, singing the classic song, and operating computer systems, will not enter the college. So, we should consider this problem in the same national curriculum.

Nevertheless, the system of the education will not change to allow other possibilities, a nation has to require all of their students to study the same courses, until the college. It is related to educational systems so that it is difficult to decide whatever is right. However, while the current educational system exists in a nation, the country should require the same curriculum to its students.

考官评论

This response demonstrates some competence in analyzing the issue and in conveying meaning, but it is obviously flawed. The writer adopts a position of agreement with the prompt, arguing that since higher education requires students to pass standardized exams, a curriculum which emphasized the same education for all students would be more conducive to passing college entrance exams and tests such as the SAT. In the course of this argument, the writer does consider that the implementation of a national curriculum would remove the opportunity for students to explore areas of study outside their core coursework but argues that this loss can be made up during the students' university coursework. The response presents a clear position on the issue and develops that position with relevant reasons and examples, but it fails to convey ideas with acceptable clarity; it has problems in language and sentence structure that result in a lack of clarity. These frequent minor errors and occasional major errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics preclude the response from receiving an upper-half score. In order to merit a score of 4, this response would need to demonstrate better control of the conventions of standard written English.

范文 3- challenge 类型

“The best way for a society to prepare its young people for leadership in government, industry, or other fields is by instilling in them a sense of cooperation, not competition.”

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons or examples that could be used to **challenge your position**.

NOTE: All responses are reproduced exactly as written, including errors, misspellings, etc., if any.

满分范文

Whenever people argue that history is a worthless subject or that there is nothing to be gained by just “memorizing a bunch of stupid names and dates,” I simply hold my tongue and smile to myself. What I’m thinking is that, as cliché as it sounds, you do learn a great deal from history (and woe to those who fail to learn those lessons). It is remarkable to think of the number of circumstances and situations in which even the most rudimentary knowledge of history will turn out to be invaluable. Take, for example, the issue at hand here. Is it better for society to instill in future leaders a sense of competition or cooperation? Those who have not examined leaders throughout time and across a number of fields might not have the ability to provide a thorough and convincing answer to this question, in spite of the fact that it is crucial to the future functioning of our society. Looking closely at the question of leadership and how it has worked in the past, I would have to agree that the best way to prepare young people for leadership roles is to instill in them a sense of cooperation.

Let us look first at those leaders who have defined themselves based on their competitiveness. Although at first glance it may appear that a leader must have a competitive edge in order to gain and then maintain a leadership position, I will make two points on this subject. First, the desire to compete is an inherent part of human nature; that is, it is not something that needs to be “instilled” in young people. Is there anyone who does not compete in some way or another every single day? You try to do better than others in your school work or at the office, or you just try to do better than yourself in some way, to push yourself. When societies instill competitiveness in their leaders, it only leads to trouble. The most blatant example in this case is Adolf Hitler, who took competition to the very extreme, trying to prove that his race and his country were superior to all. We do not, however, need to look that far to find less extreme examples (i.e., Hitler is not the extreme example that disproves the rule). The recent economic meltdown was caused in no large part by the leaders of American banks and financial institutions who were obsessed with competing for the almighty dollar. Tiger Woods, the ultimate competitor in recent golfing history and in many ways a leader who brought the sport of golf to an entirely new level, destroyed his personal life (and perhaps his career—still yet to be determined) by his overreaching sense that he could accomplish anything, whether winning majors or sleeping with as many women as possible. His history of competitiveness is well documented; his father pushed him from a very early age to be the ultimate competitor. It served him well in some respects, but it also proved to be detrimental and ultimately quite destructive.

Leaders who value cooperation, on the other hand, have historically been less prone to these overreaching, destructive tendencies. A good case in point would be Abraham Lincoln. Now, I am sure at this point you are thinking that Lincoln, who served as President during the Civil War and who refused to compromise with the South or allow secession, could not possibly be my model of cooperation! Think, however, of the way Lincoln structured his Cabinet. He did not want a group of “yes men” who would agree with every word he said, but instead he picked people who were more likely to disagree with his ideas. And he respected their input, which allowed him to keep the government together in the North during a very tumultuous period (to say the least). My point in choosing the Lincoln example is that competitiveness and conflict may play better to the masses and be more likely to be recorded in the history books, but it was his cooperative nature that allowed him to govern effectively. Imagine if the CEO of a large company were never able to compromise and insisted that every single thing be done in exactly her way. Very quickly she would lose the very people that a company needs in order to survive, people with

new ideas, people ready to make great advances. Without the ability to work constructively with those who have conflicting ideas, a leader will never be able to strike deals, reach consensus, or keep an enterprise on track. Even if you are the biggest fish in the pond, it is difficult to force your will on others forever; eventually a bigger fish comes along (or the smaller fish team up against you!).

In the end, it seems most critical for society to instill in young people a sense of cooperation. In part this is true because we seem to come by our competitive side more naturally, but cooperation is more often something we struggle to learn (just think of kids on the playground). And although competitive victory is more showy, more often than not the real details of leadership come down to the ability to work with other people, to compromise and cooperate. Getting to be President of the United States or the managing director of a corporation might require you to win some battles, but once you are there you will need diplomacy and people-skills. Those can be difficult to learn, but if you do not have them, you are likely to be a short-lived leader.

考官评论

This outstanding response earns a score of 6 for presenting an insightful position on the issue and supporting its analysis with compelling reasons and persuasive examples. The response takes the insightful position that competition, though necessary to some aspects of leadership, is less important for young people to learn because it is inherent in the human condition and can lead to dangerous excesses, whereas cooperation is more difficult to learn but more essential. The response follows the task directions by using counterarguments in the development of its position. For example, the discussion of Lincoln explores conflicting sides of his Presidency (the “competition” of the Civil War and the “cooperation” within his Cabinet). In fact, the response skillfully explores the nuances of both cooperation and competition, building its position of agreement with the prompt by looking closely at many sides of both concepts. Additionally, the response demonstrates superior facility with language. There are a few minor errors, mainly typos, but in general the response demonstrates excellent sentence variety and diction. This sentence is typical of the quality of the writing throughout the response: “My point in choosing the Lincoln example is that competitiveness and conflict may play better to the masses and be more likely to be recorded in the history books, but it was his cooperative nature that allowed him to govern effectively.” In this complex sentence, the writer makes skillful use of parallel structure and subordination. Because of its fluent writing and insightful development, then, this response earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

Cooperation, the act of working as a group to achieve a collective goal, is an important value for young children to learn. Another vital life lesson children can learn is how to be competitive, which is a mindset in which a person feels the need to accomplish more than another person. Both are necessary to become well rounded individuals, but concerning preparing for a future in government, industry or various other fields, a sense of cooperation is much more important.

While not all children are overly competitive in nature, every person has some level of competitive drive inside them. This is a natural thing and is perfectly normal. Unfortunately, if this competitive nature is emphasized, the child will have problems relating socially to other children, and subsequently, will have issues interacting with adults later in life. A fierce competitive drive will blind an individual, causing them to not see situations where group effort will be more greatly rewarded than an individual effort. Take for instance the many teams of people working for NASA. If the people that make up these teams were all out to prove that they were superior to others, our entire space program would be jeopardized. One needs to look beyond the scope of what is best on an individual level and learn to look at what will most benefit a broad group of people. This is where instilling a sense of cooperation in young children is vital. Cooperation is taught at an early age and must be emphasized throughout life to fully embrace the concept.

In the world of sports a competitive drive is vital; unfortunately, life is not a sports game that simply leads to a winning or losing score. Life is far more complex than this simple idea and there is no winner or loser designation to accompany it. We all have to work together to come to a conclusion that will assist not just ourselves, but others and future generations. In every scenario there will be individuals that have brilliant ideas, but those ideas require other people to build upon, perfect and implement. Take for instance Bill Gates; Bill Gates is responsible for the Microsoft corporation which he invented in his garage. His competitive drive assisted in building his idea, but it was the collaborative effort of many people that helped propel his invention into the world known product it is today. Without the cooperation of others, his genius invention might never have made it out of his garage.

It may be true that an individual can change the world, but only so far as to say that an individual can construct an idea that will inevitably change the world. Once an idea is formulated, it then takes a team of people working collectively towards a common goal to make sure that the brilliant, life-altering idea makes it to fruition. Without the cooperation of many, an idea could simply remain as a picture on a drawing board. It is because of this possibility that instilling a cooperative demeanor in children is much more important than developing a competitive attitude. Competition is a natural thing that will develop with or without encouragement but the same cannot be said for a sense of cooperation.

考官评论

Arguing that cooperation is less natural and more important for leadership, this response develops a thoughtful position on the issue and conveys meaning clearly and well. For these reasons it earns a score of 5. Note that it does not develop its reasons and examples as thoroughly as the sample 6 does, but it still presents thoughtful analysis using well chosen examples. For example, the discussion of Bill Gates is thoughtful, exploring the ways that both competition (the “competitive drive” that led him to found a company) and cooperation (the “collaborative effort of many people” is what made the company work) were essential to his success as a leader. Throughout the response, then, counterarguments are used to

create a nuanced position on the issue. The writer looks at conflicting aspects of competition, which is vital but insufficient for life because life is “more complex” than a sporting event, and cooperation, which is critical but more difficult to learn. In addition, the writer conveys meaning clearly, demonstrating sentence variety and a facility with language that is more than adequate. There are a few minor errors, mainly typos and misspelled words, but language control in this response is more than adequate (e.g., “One needs to look beyond the scope of what is best on an individual level and learn to look at what will most benefit a broad group of people.”). Because of its facility with language and its thoughtful position on the issue, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

When the generation of today matures, it is important for them to succeed and become the successful leaders in government, industry and other fields. There are many traits that leaders must possess, and cooperation is one of these very important characters. Nonetheless it is important for leaders to have a sense of competition, so as to prevent themselves from being complacent with their position.

Cooperation is needed in order to be a functional person in society, while still adhering to social standards. Most leaders in society, did not start out as such. A person cannot isolate themselves from others with demeanor and attitude and expect to become an executive. While there may be leaders that have developed this ill attitude towards others, they did not get there by being that way. A person who is able to effectively cooperate with others, will subsequently develop a nexus of supporters. Through collaboration, people are able to develop their studies further and better themselves.

However, it is still important for there to be a sense of competition. Competition is the root of motivation for most. It drives us to become stronger, smarter, and to want more. Nonetheless, the spirit of competition must also be reigned in, and not be allowed to run wild. Competitiveness can lead to abuse of power and distasteful actions, which is quite the opposite of someone who displays cooperativeness.

Some may argue that competition is not needed. That those that are meant to be leaders will not become complacent, because they have their own internal drive to lead. If there was no competition, there would be no world records. Michael Phelps may not be a leader of government or industry, but he is certainly educated on the technique of swimming, and leader in his field. Would he be as good as he is today if there was not competition? Would the leaders of Microsoft have been motivated to create Bing if there was no Google?

Cooperation helped many leaders get where they are today, and will continue to do so in the future. But leaders, as well as those that aspire to be one, all need to have a sense of competition as well.

考官评论

This adequate response presents a clear position on the issue in accordance with the assigned task, arguing that both competition and cooperation are important for leaders. The response uses counterarguments both in the construction of its overall position (comparing the value of both competition and cooperation) and in its discussion of the positive and negative aspects of competition. However, the development of ideas in this response is not as thorough or as persuasive as one would expect to see in a response that earns a score of 5 or 6. For instance, the example of Microsoft inventing Bing to compete with Google is certainly relevant, but it is not developed with any thoughtfulness. It is simply stated. Other examples are somewhat more fully developed, but there is also some tangential material (e.g., even the writer seems to understand that Michael Phelps does not quite fit into a discussion of leadership). In addition to its adequate development, this response displays adequate control of language. This response does not have the sentence variety or the skillful diction seen in a response that earns a higher score. There are some minor errors present, but nothing that interferes with clarity. Because this response presents a clear position on the issue, expressing meaning with adequate clarity, it earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

Leadership is a tough task to master. To be a leader means you must be better than a bunch of folks and work with them to accomplish a greater goal. Leadership in any field needs cooperative effort and a leader must be able to inspire and make the human resource at hand to work better. In doing so there is a far cry of an immense responsibility. I therefore stand by taking help from inmates to do the same.

Like the say ‘when going gets tough the tough gets going’. So there is no point of getting bogged down rather plan more ways to get the work done and one of the sureshot approach is by working together. I believe to the core of my heart that there can be nothing equal to cooperation and unity in a work field. As simple as it sounds if one can do a work in hermit atmosphere at certain efficiency, a number of brains working together can be more efficient. An atmosphere where everyone works holding hands and when someone falls there are people to make him stand again makes a much better picture in my mind everytime.

Competition is not a evil it can inspire some one to work better and looking to do better can be considered good. But am afraid what fear here is that when you compete with someone you set you limits to that person. So once you do better than him/her you tend to be relaxed and that is where when the real evil creeps in.

With cooperation you have a goal and associated effort to work for the same. Rather than individual petty and competition to be better placed than an friend it would be far more appreciable to keep working for the common goal. That way even the goal gets more defined at some level. So lets all drop all this boundaries of indivisualism and keep working for a common goal, and if you want to compete then compete with yourself and get better than what you were yesterday.

考官评论

This response displays some competence in presenting a position according to the task directions, but it earns a score of 3 because frequent minor errors do interfere with clarity. The writer agrees with the prompt that cooperation is more important, and it explores some counterarguments in its assertion that competition “can inspire some one to work better and looking to do better can be considered good.” However, almost every sentence in this response has at least one minor error. Some of the errors are typos or minor mechanical problems like missing spaces after punctuation. But other errors have more impact on meaning. Missing words, incorrect sentence boundaries, and improper verb forms contribute to a lack of clarity throughout the response. This sentence is typical of the limited language control seen throughout this response: “So there is no point of getting bogged down rather plan more ways to get the work done and one of the sureshot approach is by working together.” Because of its limited clarity, then, this response earns a score of 3.

范文 4- challenge your position 类型

Every individual in a society has a responsibility to obey just laws and to disobey and resist unjust laws.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim. In developing and supporting your position, be sure to address the most compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to **challenge your position**.

满分范文

Throughout history the conflict between one's own judgment and the judgment of the lawmakers has given rise to many conflicts, wars and revolutions. In that context, the claim that individuals should follow their own sense of righteousness by opposing laws that are in their opinion unfair and following laws that are fair is justified. Since individual judgment is subjective, however, I cannot completely agree with the claim.

One of the negative consequences of blindly following a state's laws becomes clear when one considers authoritarian, ideologically extreme and fundamentalist countries. It is highly likely that power-hungry and oppressive governments like Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union are not founded on and buttressed by the most ethical laws. For example, when my grandfather was stationed with the German army in the Czech Republic in 1945, he was tasked with executing five Czech partisans. As a soldier, he should have followed orders and could have been sent to prison or executed himself if he disobeyed. He managed to convince his superior that his pistol was rusty and would not fire and thereby saved the lives of the partisans by disobeying a direct order. When a state's laws are in conflict with basic human codes of ethics, therefore, it becomes clear that one should disobey orders.

Not all laws, however, violate human rights, so the decision to follow or oppose them is not black and white. In some cases a subjective sense of what is right might actually oppose a collective sense of what is right. For instance, I remember arguing with my parents while in 5th grade in school that, based on my antipathy towards school at the time, I had a right to freedom and should not be obliged to go to school. In fact, going to school is required by law in Germany, and I was arguing to break the law based on my own set of principles and rights. Since a sense of righteousness can be subjective, it is sometimes reasonable to accept laws that benefit the whole of society as well as the individual - even if the individual is not willing to accept that as a universal truth.

I furthermore can't completely agree with the claim with respect to the statement that society should obey "just" laws. There are certainly circumstances in which a whole society's sense of right and wrong has been manipulated by years of propaganda. Consider the law passed in 1939 by Nazi Germany labeled the "Endlösung", i.e., the final solution. That law deprived Jewish people of any human rights and set the scene for the holocaust. Through years of brainwashing, a large proportion of German society accepted that law and actually believed that Jews were an inferior race. Therefore, depending on the circumstances and the manipulative powers of a regime, even laws that appear just to some are utterly appalling to humanity as a whole. Hence, the subjective nature of right or wrong does not only vary from person to person but is also subject to manipulation and deceit. For this reason I cannot agree with the claim completely.

In conclusion, therefore, there are situations, such as when laws clearly oppose basic human rights, in which the claim is true and useful. However, an individual's interpretation of what is right is often subjective and vulnerable to biased influences by powerful regimes. Therefore the truth of the claim is limited.

考官评论

This response presents a cogent, well-articulated analysis of the issue in accordance with the specific task

directions. Each paragraph contributes significant analytical reasoning to support the nuanced position that while resistance to authority is obviously justified in the most clear-cut cases, a sense of justification can be too subjective to be reliable not only in a personal sense but also on a societal scale, as when entire populations become deluded. In presenting that analysis, the writer takes a position that one must disobey unjust laws (second paragraph) and obey those that are just (third paragraph). But, in accordance with the task direction to address any compelling reasons and/or examples that could be used to challenge one's position, the writer also recognizes a counterargument to his/her position in instances when people neither resist nor disobey unjust laws (fourth paragraph), particularly when they are "subject to manipulation and deceit." Furthermore, the examples and reasons are both compelling and persuasive as in the dramatic case of the Nazi soldier finding a way to disobey orders even though he "should" have followed them to save his own life. The response conveys ideas fluently and precisely via effective vocabulary and syntax, as in this example: "Therefore, depending on the circumstances and the manipulative powers of a regime, even laws that appear just to some are utterly appalling to humanity as a whole. Hence, the subjective nature of right or wrong does not only vary from person to person but is also subject to manipulation and deceit." For its well-articulated, cogent analysis of the issue, this response earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

Every individual in a society does have a responsibility to obey just laws and to potentially disobey and resist unjust laws to a certain extent. Laws are formed with the safety and well being of the society as a whole; therefore one would hope that most laws would be considered just. However, in extreme circumstances, disobeying a law that is seen as unjust, when seen as benefiting society as a whole, is acceptable. In these situations the “bar” for what stands as unjust needs to be set, and is nonnegotiable. Without a hard and fast line that is followed complete anarchy could ensue.

Every person has a responsibility to do what is just, whether it is in the eyes of the law or eyes of what is morally acceptable. To be a responsible and active member in a functioning society an individual needs to follow protocol. Laws that are set in place to control the safety of a community are crucial to the society’s survival. Responsibility, although a daunting term, is appropriate in that in order for a law to be effective and functional individuals need to be held accountable for their actions. Just laws are not simply suggestions that should be followed; they are rules that need to be followed.

When it comes to unjust laws it is not such a black and white situation. If a law is unjust in every single situation, and at no point is morally acceptable, then it is an individual’s responsibility to stand up against the law and demand change. However, there is no standard definition as to what is unjust. Each individual can read into this situation differently. For some, animal rights hold the most significance and any law that denies them complete rights is unjust. In that case most in society would not find it acceptable or morally right to fight laws that protect a human’s security over an animal’s security. The same can be said for issues such as abortion. Some are strongly pro choice while others feel it is the same as committing murder. In this case some would fight against laws that allow abortion while others will fight to allow the women to decide. In both scenarios, if everyone fought against the standing laws chaos would surely ensue.

To resist unjust laws could hold a very different meaning to each individual in society. Some believe that the best way to resist an unjust law would be to send letters to the capitol, quietly protest by putting up signs, or simply getting word out by holding town meetings out that these laws are not acceptable. Others take resistance to a totally different level by vocally protesting, holding sit-ins, and in some cases becoming violent. This being said, unless there is a hard and fast rule describing what is considered unjust and what “resist” means, there needs to be caution when attempting to stand up for what one individual decides is unjust.

In the most extreme cases, such as allowing genocide of an entire race, there would be no question that citizens need to stand up and fight the laws put in place by the corrupt justice system. In such cases the line is drawn and it appears to be a black and white issue. Again, caution needs to be taken when disobeying the laws. If the resistance becomes violent, then their cause can become questionable. Are they not doing the same thing in retaliation, therefore committing unjust crimes to fix unjust rules? Tactful and effective methods that do not put society as a whole in more danger than they currently stand in would be acceptable. However, more often than not violence is used to fight violence, which essentially seems to contradict the cause and undermine the end goals of the resistance.

In the end it is critical that society follow just laws in order to keep society healthy and happy. It is in fact their individual responsibility to do so. As for disobeying unjust laws, there seems to be a large grey area. Depending on the means to the end, disobeying could potentially be beneficial to the entire society, yet with strong opinions leading the way there is potential for damage to be done to the entire society. In that case, “responsibility” is too strong of a term.

考官评论

In addressing the specific task directions, this strong response presents a generally thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the issue. The writer does not merely accept the claim as stated but instead addresses it as two distinct assertions, which results in a fully reasoned response. While agreeing that “every individual in a society does have a responsibility to obey just laws,” the writer takes a more pragmatic approach when evaluating the validity of the counterclaim that every individual in society also has a responsibility to disobey unjust laws. For example, in paragraph two, the writer presents a view favoring the obligation to obey laws and then, in the third paragraph, clearly signals a turn to challenging that view: “When it comes to unjust laws it is not such a black and white situation.” To illustrate this point, the writer examines several reasons why it is difficult to make such a broad claim about unjust laws, including the differing views among individuals as to what constitutes an unjust law and what actions should be taken “to resist” such laws. The writer warns that engaging in resistance to unjust laws could justify extreme methods of retaliation which would undermine the goal of resisting (e.g., using violence to fight against violence). Examples are well chosen and reasoning is logically sound. Ideas are connected appropriately (e.g., “In these situations,” “However,” “In that case,” “Again,” “In the end”), and the response is well organized. However, it lacks the superior facility of a typical 6, and that keeps it from receiving the higher score. For its well-considered, thoughtful analysis and logically sound reasoning, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

I disagree with the claim that individuals in a society have a responsibility to obey just laws and to disobey and resist unjust laws. I believe individuals are responsible to obey laws, whether they seem just or unjust. Promoting the idea that members of a society ought to disobey and resist any law with which they disagree is dangerous. We should encourage society members to use proper channels to challenge the laws which they believe are unjust.

Our society is based on democratic law. As such, our current laws represent the values and needs of our society as a whole. If an individual of our society disagrees with a particular law, we could all be in danger if that individual's belief conflicts with the greater good of our society. For example, if John believes he should be able to use methamphetamines, and therefore chooses to produce them in his home despite the current ban on methamphetamines in our country, this could put many other individuals in danger. Methamphetamine production creates many toxic byproducts, and faulty production can result in dangerous explosions, both of which put his neighbors in harm's way. John may be justified in his choice to endanger himself by using methamphetamine, but he is not justified to endanger his neighbors.

Some might argue that obeying unjust laws only serves to reinforce those laws, but I disagree. Many laws in our country have been changed or modified over the years. An important example is abortion. Abortion was previously illegal in our country. In resistance to the unjust laws, many women obtained illegal abortions. These abortions were not safe and were often performed under unsanitary conditions. Through our legal system, we have now ensured that women have the legal right to abortion. Seeking action through appropriate channels did not reinforce prohibition of abortion, but led to its legalization. By following the proper legal channels, and obtaining legalized abortion, women now have access to abortions at safe and sanitary medical facilities, and the unjust laws were changed.

As responsible citizens, we have the right to obey laws. The responsible response to unjust laws is to change them.

考官评论

In addressing the specific task directions, this response presents both a position on the issue and a potential challenge to it. Disagreeing with the idea of resisting or disobeying laws, the writer argues that all laws should be obeyed or challenged through “proper legal channels.” Using a democratic society to provide context and through the example of John the methamphetamine producer, the writer illustrates the potential danger in advocating disobedience to laws which one personally deems to be unjust. Next, the writer satisfactorily responds to a potential counterargument: “Some might argue that obeying unjust laws only serves to reinforce those laws, but I disagree.” By comparing the consequences of disobedience to abortion laws (unsafe operations performed under unsanitary conditions) to the results obtained when legal channels were pursued (legal abortions in sanitary medical facilities), the writer successfully addresses the counterargument while reinforcing support for his/her own position. Although it is adequately organized and ideas are supported with relevant examples, the response lacks the breadth and depth required for a score of 5 or 6. For instance, while the example of John illustrates the point that there is a potential danger to society when individuals disobey laws which they deem unjust, it does not demonstrate any thoughtful consideration of the more complex aspects of the issue. The same is true of the abortion example which cites changes in the law but does not engage the thornier and more contentious aspects of

that issue. Ideas are conveyed with acceptable clarity although there are some errors. For its competent analysis of the issue conveyed with acceptable clarity, this response merits a score of 4.

3 分范文

The purpose of stating the laws is to maintain law and order in the society. Without the laws there will not be any control on the behaviour of the individuals in the society. Laws are made for the welfare of society itself so it is the responsibility of each and every individual to obey the stated laws.

Obeying the laws is beneficial for the society, but then the question arises that what is the difference between just and unjust laws? It depends on the thinking of individual to individual. The law which is just for one individual may be unjust for another individual. For example in a country like India there is a law which gives reservation for backward class people in most of the fields like education, employment etc. This law is supported by those who are benefited by this law but the people who don't get reservation are resisting such laws. Or a thief does a robbery, when robbery is a crime according to law which is just law for normal people but may be unjust for the thief. So whether a law is just or unjust depends on individual perspective.

Take for example on the roads traffic signals every individual has to follow the signals or else there will be a lots of confusions, and also may result in to accidents. If each individual follows the laws there will be no confusions and the traffic movement will be smooth, thus every one in the traffic gets benefitted.

So it is the responsibility of each individual to obey the laws stated whether it may seem just or unjust to him. Even though the laws seems unjust the resistance can be shown in some different ways, but the laws must be obeyed. The best example of this is the recent movement in India about the Jan Lok pal bill which will soon become a law. Thus the laws can also be changed or modified by the contribution of individuals but it's necessary that the laws are obeyed.

Even though one can voice his opinion about the unjust laws the resistance also has to be done as per the law. The laws cannot be classified as just or unjust as per an individual opinion. Thus to conclude the laws are made for the welfare of the society as a whole and not only for an individual so it is the responsibility of each and every individual to obey the prescribed laws whether he likes it or not.

考官评论

This response demonstrates limited competence in addressing the task directions and analyzing the issue. The writer disagrees with the prompt ("it is the responsibility of each individual to obey the laws stated whether it may seem just or unjust to him") and supports this view by explaining why the claim is untenable ("the laws cannot be classified as just or unjust as per an individual opinion"). In accordance with the task directions, the writer also addresses implied objections to the prompt. The fourth paragraph, for example, centers on explaining that although the writer objects to disobeying the law, this is not necessarily an objection to all forms of resistance ("Even though the laws seems unjust the resistance can be shown in some different ways, but the laws must be obeyed"). Despite these strengths, the response is obviously flawed. An accumulation of frequent minor and occasional major errors interferes with clarity: "For example in a country like India there is a law which gives reservation for backward class people in most of the fields like education, employment etc. This law is supported by those who are benefited by this law but the people who don't get reservation are resisting such laws." Therefore, primarily because it has problems in language and syntax that result in a lack of clarity, this response merits a score of 3.

范文 5- address both of the views 类型

Some people believe that corporations have a responsibility to promote the well-being of the societies and environments in which they operate. Others believe that the only responsibility of corporations, provided they operate within the law, is to make as much money as possible.

Write a response in which you discuss **which view more closely aligns** with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should **address both of the views** presented.

满分范文

It is not uncommon for some to argue that, in the world in which we live, corporations have a responsibility to society and to the environment in which they operate. Proponents of this view would argue that major environmental catastrophes (e.g., the oil spill in the Gulf) are key examples of the damage that can be wrought when corporations are allowed to operate unchecked. Yet within that very statement lies a contradiction that undermines this kind of thinking — it is necessary for outside forces to check the behavior of corporations, because we do not expect corporations to behave in such a manner. In fact, the expectation is simply that corporations will follow the law, and in the course of doing so, engage in every possible tactic to their advantage in the pursuit of more and greater profit. To expect otherwise from corporations is to fail to understand their purpose and their very structure.

The corporation arose as a model of business in which capital could be raised through the contributions of stockholders; investors purchase shares in a company, and their money is then used as the operating capital for the company. Shareholders buy stock not because they are hoping to better make the world a better place or because they have a desire to improve the quality of life but because they expect to see a return in their investment in this company. The company may itself have generally altruistic goals (perhaps it is a think tank that advises the government on how to improve relations with the Middle East, or perhaps it is a company built around finding alternative forms of energy), but the immediate expectation of the investor is that he himself will see dividends, or profits, from the investment he has made. This is even more true in the case of companies that are purely profit driven and which do not have goals that are particularly directed toward social improvement — a description that applies to the vast majority of corporations.

Is it a bad thing to have a corporation negatively affect the environment (and by extension, its inhabitants)? To pump noxious fumes into the atmosphere as a by-product of its manufacturing processes? Of course, and this is why agencies such as the EPA were established and why governments — federal, state, and local — are expected to monitor such companies to ensure that such practices fall within the boundaries of legal expectations. Any and all corporations should be expected to temper their pursuit of profit with the necessity of following those safeguards that have been legislated as protections. But the assumption that corporations have an inherent obligation or responsibility to go above and beyond that to actively PROMOTE the environment and the well-being of society is absurd.

Engaging in practices to adhere to legal expectations to protect society and the environment is costly to corporations. If the very purpose of a corporation is to generate profits, and the obligation to adhere to safety expectations established by law cuts into those profits, then to expect corporations to embrace such practices beyond what is required is to presume that they willingly engage in an inherently self-destructive process: the unnecessary lowering of profits. This is antithetical to the very concept of the corporation. Treehuggers everywhere should be pleased that environmental protections exist, but to expect corporations to “make the world a better place” is to embrace altruism to the point that it becomes delusion.

This is not to say that we should reject efforts to hold corporations accountable. In fact, the opposite is true — we should be vigilant with the business world and maintain our expectations that corporations do not make their profits at the EXPENSE of the well-being of society. But that role must be fulfilled by a watchdog, not the corporation itself, and those expectations must be imposed UPON the corporations, not expected FROM them.

考官评论

This response receives a 6 for developing an insightful position on the issue in accordance with the assigned task, skillfully weaving a position that takes into consideration both of the statements in the prompt. Beginning in the first paragraph, the writer rejects the idea that corporations themselves “have a responsibility to promote the well-being of the societies and environments in which they operate.” In the second paragraph, the writer offers compelling reasons for this rejection by discussing the purpose and structure of corporations. The writer then considers the role of government in promoting corporations’ social and environmental responsibility, developing the position fully. A cogent statement of the writer’s position appears at the conclusion of the response: “we should be vigilant with the business world and maintain our expectations that corporations do not make their profits at the EXPENSE of the well-being of society. But that role must be fulfilled by a watchdog, not the corporation itself.” The response as a whole is logically organized, with each paragraph serving as a stepping stone in the development of the writer’s position. It also demonstrates the writer’s ability to convey ideas fluently and precisely, using effective vocabulary and sentence variety. This sentence demonstrates the level of language facility seen throughout the response: “If the very purpose of a corporation is to generate profits, and the obligation to adhere to safety expectations established by law cuts into those profits, then to expect corporations to embrace such practices beyond what is required is to presume that they willingly engage in an inherently self-destructive process: the unnecessary lowering of profits.” Here the writer has skillfully maintained control of complex syntax and diction while making a logically compelling point. The sentence demonstrates the outstanding nature of this response.

5 分范文

In order to survive, corporations must make money. Successful corporations try and make as much money as possible. Yet this incentive to make money does not mean that a corporation can be a detriment to the society in which it operates. Corporations have a duty and a responsibility to ensure the well being of the society in which they are a part.

Contributing to the well being of a society is actually beneficial to a corporation in many cases. One of these is making sure that workers are well taken care of. Absenteeism and neglect while on duty are a big problem for corporations, as is attracting the best workers, who hopefully will lower the risks caused by absenteeism and neglect. One way that corporations can attract these workers is by offering them generous benefits. If, for example, an employer includes with employment a good health care plan, they will be able to attract better workers than one that does not, and that will aid the corporation greatly. Health care plans provided by employers mean that these people have at their disposal health coverage, which means that they have the care they need if they get sick. This also might encourage preventive care, something that has been shown to reduce the cost and risk of developing other major ailments.

Another area where corporations providing support for themselves and society is in the creation of human capital. Globalization and increased education means that employers need a better educated workforce more than ever. One way that employers can contribute to this is by sponsoring worker training programs, or paying for their employees to return to school. This creates a more educated workforce for employers, as well as may increase the loyalty of employees to an employer. An employee who received an education sponsored by an employer may be thankful for receiving that education, and may work harder for that employer. This creates a benefit for employers and employees.

The main reason that corporations have a duty to contribute to the well being of society is that they are a part of the society. Even though they have an economic desire to make a profit, corporations also should think long term about actions they take which could hurt their company. A good example of this is BP, after the recent oil spill in the gulf. Their desire to make a profit meant that they did not keep up on all of their safety regulations and standards, and the result of the then faulty equipment caused a massive spill. This cost them huge amounts of money to clean up, as well as the fines they had to pay for causing this. The biggest loss for BP however is that their brand name will be associated in the US and abroad as the company that caused this giant oil spill. As the spill was happening, many people boycotted the company, resulting in lost potential revenue. They may realize that as they lose business to people upset by the spill, that making sure a spill didn't happen in the first place was cheaper.

Another reason corporations have to ensure the well-being of a society is that by making a society better off, a company may have more consumers. This is especially true for corporations that sell goods for middle and upper class consumers. If a corporation tries to bring people up and increase the overall economic well being of society, they may find that more and more people have the ability to afford their goods. This could generate huge new profits for this corporation, since their pool of potential consumers has gone up considerably. Concentrating on the long term here means that corporations can increase their pool of potential consumers.

By denying responsibility to a society, a corporation is only looking at the possible short term profits, not the potential long term ones. While in the short term it may work for a corporation to ignore their societal responsibility, it is advantageous in the long term for the entire corporation to make sure society is getting better. The potential for new markets, products, production processes and other beneficial factors that come from promoting well being is quite large. This is something that corporations should be ready and willing to take advantage of, and something that society should hold them accountable for.

考官评论

This strong response receives a 5 for its thoughtful, well-developed analysis of the issue. In this case, the writer argues that corporations do indeed have a responsibility to promote the well-being of the societies and environments in which they operate, offering several reasons and well-chosen examples to explain why it is in the interests of corporations to fulfill these responsibilities. The writer clearly follows the task directions by addressing the two views provided by the prompt, both explicitly in the opening paragraph and more subtly throughout the response. While the writer clearly signals at the beginning his or her alignment with the first position ("Corporations have a duty and a responsibility to ensure the well being of the society of which they are a part"), the paragraphs that follow in fact acknowledge the writer's opening statement ("In order to survive, corporations must make money"). In areas such as employee health care and education, as well as in relation to broader issues such as the environment and the general level of prosperity in society, the writer argues that corporations should strive to meet their social obligations because in the long term, it is economically advantageous to do so. The various reasons and examples offered are brought together to support a thoughtful position that implicitly suggests that the two views are not as mutually exclusive as they might first appear. The response also demonstrates considerable facility with language. There are some minor errors, but overall the writer's control of language is strong, demonstrating sentence variety and appropriate use of vocabulary. The response lacks the superior fluency and precision of a 6 but nevertheless conveys meaning clearly and well. Discernibly stronger than the adequate level of analysis in a 4, the response has thoughtful, nuanced analysis of the issue that earns it a score of 5.

4 分范文

While some people may believe that corporations have a responsibility to protect society, others believe that the only purpose of a corporation is to make money. I agree that making profits is important. In the grand scheme of things, though, all companies have a responsibility to watch out for their customers. Their customers are how they make their money. If they're not watching out for their customers, they obviously will see a drop in their profits.

Consider light bulbs. This is an invention that has all kinds of potential for serious accidents. It is basically just a glass globe with electricity running through it! If a bulb gets too hot, it could potentially start a fire. Similarly, if someone removed the glass from around the tungsten wire, you'd basically have an exposed electrical wire that could hurt anyone who touched it. Makers of light bulbs know and understand all these dangers. They want consumers to purchase their products, so the first and smartest way to make that happen is to ensure that the products are safe and thus more attractive to the customer base. If everyone who used light bulbs was afraid of getting zapped profits would obviously go down and light bulbs would not be a very profitable enterprise.

This same thinking applies to all major products. The automobile is one of the most dangerous tools man uses. Tens of thousands of automobile drivers die every year in accidents. Insuring that the vehicles contain designs and parts that promote customer safety is a main focus of car manufacturers. Certain parts of cars were built with promoting driver's well-being in mind. For instance, air bags, anti-lock braking systems, online crash reporting. These features are considered standard now, and they were all developed to increase the safety of consumers. These features were not cheap to develop, but car manufacturers improved their profits anyway because they developed products with public safety in mind, which is what customers expect. If this symbiosis relationship wasn't true, then we would still have cars without airbags or even seatbelts. Worrying about the safety and actually improving it for customers is not just a basic responsibility of corporations, but it drives their profits, too.

In conclusion, it's pretty clear that a corporation's desire to make more profits is in line with a corporation's responsibility to consumers. Increasing the focus on consumers, worrying about taking care of them and the environment, can only lead to bigger profits and success for corporations in the long run.

考官评论

This adequate response follows the task directions and presents a clear position on the issue. It supports and develops its position competently, using relevant examples. In accordance with the assigned task, the response addresses both of the competing positions. Specifically, its position and the examples it develops argue that businesses can care about both profits and ethical responsibility through the ways they develop products. The development of examples and ideas, while adequate, is not as thoughtful or compelling as would be needed to earn higher scores. For instance, both of the examples the response uses are about product safety; the discussion of automobile design does not advance the position much more than the prior discussion of lightbulb production. Language control in the response is also competent. It demonstrates sufficient control of the conventions of standard written English, and its main points are made with acceptable clarity. The response features a few grammatical and mechanical errors (e.g., "Certain parts of of cars . . ." and "symbiosis relationship") and some awkward sentences. However, for the 4 range, GRE raters allow for minor errors in responses like this one that holistically demonstrate

sufficient clarity and control. Overall, then, this response demonstrates adequate development and control of language, making the score of 4 appropriate.

3 分范文

Corporations can be viewed as both beneficial and bad. This statement addresses both views that many people have about corporations. Views come from personal experiences and is the reason why some people like corporations and why some people do not.

Half of this argument deals with people that like the idea of corporations. Some people believe that corporations help stimulate societies and promote the well being of society. These people are ones that have never encountered a corrupt corporation. Just like in any other aspects of life, people can get images of something as being good if they only brush the outside. It isn't until they are being faced with a problem within a particular corporation where they either work for them or have just dealt with them. Also, people that are benefited from corporations are obviously going to like the idea of an corporation.

The other side of this argument is that many people believe corporations are just money hungry. This can be seen in many corporations throughout America. Many small business owners will side with this argument. The problem lies that this is corporate America and the little businesses are being taking over by larger corporations. As Mark Twain once said, "The vast amount of money is only in a couple of hands". This statement still lies true today. In addition, corporations are large and with that being said they lead to more lines of corruption. In small businesses, the owners can oversee their store entirely. Can these corporation owners really oversee every - thing that is going on? Ask any employee at a corporate office if they believe their workplace is being ran how they think the corporation would want it. One is likely to find the answer that it is not.

Just like any other issue there are two sides to the story. The problem with this issue is that most will agree that corporations are only there to make money. They don't care about the people that are helping them make money. They only care at the end of the day how much money they made.

考官评论

This response receives a score of 3 primarily because it is limited in focus. Rather than addressing the conflicting views of corporate responsibility given in the prompt, the response instead incorrectly casts the two positions as "people that like the idea of corporations" and people who "believe corporations are just money hungry." The writer proceeds to develop an explanation of these two positions, citing the various qualities that lead each group of people to their beliefs, but the response concludes by declaring that "there are two sides to the story" without adopting any position of its own. This highlights another limitation of the response, the fact that it does not completely address the specific task directions. Although the response does discuss the two opposing positions, it never discusses which view more closely aligns with the writer's own. The response does contain adequate organization, and the writing demonstrates a sufficient control of language. Sentences such as "Just like in any other aspects of life, people can get images of something as being good if they only brush the outside" are typical of the writing in this response and, despite the presence of some errors, demonstrate a sufficient control of the conventions of standard written English. However, even though the response demonstrates some qualities of a 4, its problems with focus and its failure to develop a clear position on the issue in accordance with the assigned task mean that it merits a score of 3.

范文 6- might or might not hold true 类型

As people rely more and more on technology to solve problems, the ability of humans to think for themselves will surely deteriorate.

Discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement **might or might not hold true** and explain how these considerations shape your position.

满分范文

The statement linking technology negatively with free thinking plays on recent human experience over the past century. Surely there has been no time in history where the lived lives of people have changed more dramatically. A quick reflection on a typical day reveals how technology has revolutionized the world. Most people commute to work in an automobile that runs on an internal combustion engine. During the workday, chances are high that the employee will interact with a computer that processes information on silicon bridges that are .09 microns wide. Upon leaving home, family members will be reached through wireless networks that utilize satellites orbiting the earth. Each of these common occurrences could have been inconceivable at the turn of the 19th century.

The statement attempts to bridge these dramatic changes to a reduction in the ability for humans to think for themselves. The assumption is that an increased reliance on technology negates the need for people to think creatively to solve previous quandaries. Looking back at the introduction, one could argue that without a car, computer, or mobile phone, the hypothetical worker would need to find alternate methods of transport, information processing and communication. Technology short circuits this thinking by making the problems obsolete.

However, this reliance on technology does not necessarily preclude the creativity that marks the human species. The prior examples reveal that technology allows for convenience. The car, computer and phone all release additional time for people to live more efficiently. This efficiency does not preclude the need for humans to think for themselves. In fact, technology frees humanity to not only tackle new problems, but may itself create new issues that did not exist without technology. For example, the proliferation of automobiles has introduced a need for fuel conservation on a global scale. With increasing energy demands from emerging markets, global warming becomes a concern inconceivable to the horse-and-buggy generation. Likewise dependence on oil has created nation-states that are not dependent on taxation, allowing ruling parties to oppress minority groups such as women. Solutions to these complex problems require the unfettered imaginations of maverick scientists and politicians.

In contrast to the statement, we can even see how technology frees the human imagination. Consider how the digital revolution and the advent of the internet has allowed for an unprecedented exchange of ideas. WebMD, a popular internet portal for medical information, permits patients to self research symptoms for a more informed doctor visit. This exercise opens pathways of thinking that were previously closed off to the medical layman. With increased interdisciplinary interactions, inspiration can arrive from the most surprising corners. Jeffrey Sachs, one of the architects of the UN Millenium Development Goals, based his ideas on emergency care triage techniques. The unlikely marriage of economics and medicine has healed tense, hyperinflation environments from South America to Eastern Europe.

This last example provides the most hope in how technology actually provides hope to the future of humanity. By increasing our reliance on technology, impossible goals can now be achieved. Consider how the late 20th century witnessed the complete elimination of smallpox. This disease had ravaged the human race since prehistorical days, and yet with the technology of vaccines, free thinking humans dared to imagine a world free of smallpox. Using technology, battle plans were drawn out, and smallpox was systematically targeted and eradicated.

Technology will always mark the human experience, from the discovery of fire to the implementation of nanotechnology. Given the history of the human race, there will be no limit to the number of problems, both new and old, for us to tackle. There is no need to retreat to a Luddite attitude to new things, but rather embrace a hopeful posture to the possibilities that technology provides for new avenues of human

imagination.

考官评论

The author of this essay stakes out a clear and insightful position on the issue and follows the specific instructions by presenting reasons to support that position. The essay cogently argues that technology does not decrease our ability to think for ourselves, but merely provides “additional time for people to live more efficiently.” In fact, the problems that have developed alongside the growth of technology (pollution, political unrest in oil-producing nations) actually call for more creative thinking, not less.

In further examples, the essay shows how technology allows for the linking of ideas that may never have been connected in the past (like medicine and economic models), pushing people to think in new ways. Examples are persuasive and fully developed; reasoning is logically sound and well supported. Ideas in the essay are connected logically, with effective transitions used both between paragraphs (“However” or “In contrast to the statement”) and within paragraphs. Sentence structure is varied and complex and the essay clearly demonstrates facility with the “conventions of standard written English (i.e., grammar, usage and mechanics)” (see “Analyze an Issue” Scoring Guide on pages 94 – 95), with only minor errors appearing. Thus, this essay meets all the requirements for receiving a top score, a 6.

5 分范文

Surely many of us have expressed the following sentiment, or some variation on it, during our daily commutes to work: “People are getting so stupid these days!” Surrounded as we are by striding and strident automatons with cell phones glued to their ears, PDA’s gripped in their palms, and omniscient, omnipresent CNN gleaming in their eyeballs, it’s tempting to believe that technology has isolated and infantilized us, essentially transforming us into dependent, conformist morons best equipped to sideswipe one another in our SUV’s.

Furthermore, hanging around with the younger, pre-commute generation, whom tech-savviness seems to have rendered lethal, is even less reassuring. With “Teen People” style trends shooting through the air from tiger-striped PDA to zebra-striped PDA, and with the latest starlet gossip zipping from juicy Blackberry to teeny, turbo-charged cell phone, technology seems to support young people’s worst tendencies to follow the crowd. Indeed, they have seemingly evolved into intergalactic conformity police. After all, today’s tech-aided teens are, courtesy of authentic, hands-on video games, literally trained to kill; courtesy of chat and instant text messaging, they have their own language; they even have tiny cameras to efficiently photodocument your fashion blunders! Is this adolescence, or paparazzi terrorist training camp?

With all this evidence, it’s easy to believe that tech trends and the incorporation of technological wizardry into our everyday lives have served mostly to enforce conformity, promote dependence, heighten consumerism and materialism, and generally create a culture that values self-absorption and personal entitlement over cooperation and collaboration. However, I argue that we are merely in the inchoate stages of learning to live with technology while still loving one another. After all, even given the examples provided earlier in this essay, it seems clear that technology hasn’t impaired our thinking and problem-solving capacities. Certainly it has incapacitated our behavior and manners; certainly our values have taken a severe blow. However, we are inarguably more efficient in our badness these days. We’re effective worker bees of ineffectiveness!

If technology has so increased our senses of self-efficacy that we can become veritable agents of the awful, virtual CEO’s of selfishness, certainly it can be beneficial. Harnessed correctly, technology can improve our ability to think and act for ourselves. The first challenge is to figure out how to provide technology users with some direly-needed direction.

考官评论

The language of this essay clearly illustrates both its strengths and weaknesses. The flowery and sometimes uncannily keen descriptions are often used to powerful effect, but at other times this descriptive language results in errors in syntax. See, for example, the problems of parallelism in the second-to-last sentence of paragraph 2 (“After all, today’s tech-aided teens ...”).

There is consistent evidence of facility with syntax and complex vocabulary (“Surrounded as we are by striding and strident automatons with cell phones glued to their ears, PDA’s gripped in their palms, and omniscient, omnipresent CNN gleaming in their eyeballs, it’s tempting to believe...”). However, such lucid prose is often countered by an over-reliance on abstractions and tangential reasoning. For example, what does the fact that video games “literally train [teens] to kill” have to do with the use or deterioration of thinking abilities?

Because this essay takes a complex approach to the issue (arguing, in effect, that technology neither

enhances nor reduces our ability to think for our- selves, but can do one or the other, depending on the user) and because the author makes use of “appropriate vocabulary and sentence variety” (see “Analyze an Issue” Scoring Guide on page 94), a score of 5 is appropriate.

4 分范文

In all actuality, I think it is more probable that our bodies will surely deteriorate long before our minds do in any significant amount. Who can't say that technology has made us lazier, but that's the key word, lazy, not stupid. The ever increasing amount of technology that we incorporate into our daily lives makes people think and learn every day, possibly more than ever before. Our abilities to think, learn, philosophize, etc. may even reach limits never dreamed of before by average people. Using technology to solve problems will continue to help us realize our potential as a human race. If you think about it, using technology to solve more complicating problems gives humans a chance to expand their thinking and learning, opening up whole new worlds for many people. Many of these people are glad for the chance to expand their horizons by learning more, going to new places, and trying new things. If it wasn't for the invention of new technological devices, I wouldn't be sitting at this computer trying to philosophize about technology. It would be extremely hard for children in much poorer countries to learn and think for themselves without the invention of the internet. Think what an impact the printing press, a technologically superior machine at the time, had on the ability of the human race to learn and think.

Right now we are seeing a golden age of technology, using it all the time during our every day lives. When we get up there's instant coffee and the microwave and all these great things that help us get ready for our day. But we aren't allowing our minds to deteriorate by using them, we are only making things easier for ourselves and saving time for other important things in our days. Going off to school or work in our cars instead of a horse and buggy. Think of the brain power and genius that was used to come up with that single invention that has changed the way we move across this globe.

Using technology to solve our continually more complicated problems as a human race is definitely a good thing. Our ability to think for ourselves isn't deteriorating, it's continuing to grow, moving on to higher though functions and more ingenious ideas. The ability to use what technology we have is an example

考官评论

This essay meets all the criteria of a level-4 essay. The writer develops a clear position ("Using technology to solve our problems will continue to help us realize our potential as a human race"). The position is then developed with relevant reasons ("using technology to solve more complicat[ed] problems gives humans a chance to expand their thinking and learning" and "we are seeing a golden age of technology").

Point 1, "using technology," is supported with the simple but relevant notion that technology allows us access to information and abilities to which we would not normally have access. Similarly, point 2, the "golden age," is supported by the basic description of our technologically saturated social condition. Though the overall development and organization of the essay does suffer from an occasional misdirection (see paragraph 3's abrupt progression from coffee pots to the benefits of technology to cars), the essay as a whole flows smoothly and logically from one idea to the next.

It is useful to compare this essay to the level-3 essay presented next. Though both essays entail some surface-level discussion and often fail to probe deeply into the issue, this writer does take the analysis a step further. In paragraph 2, the distinction between this essay and the next one (the level-3 response) can most clearly be seen. To support the notion that advances in technology actually help increase thinking

ability, the writer draws a clever parallel between the promise of modern, sophisticated technology (computer) and the actual “impact” of equally “promising” and pervasive technologies of the past (printing press). Like the analysis, the language in this essay clearly meets the requirements for a score of 4. The writer displays sufficient control of language and the conventions of standard written English. The preponderance of mistakes are of a cosmetic nature (“trying to solve more complicating problems.”) There is a sentence fragment (“Going off ...”) along with a comma splice (“Our ability ... isn’t deteriorating, it’s continuing to grow ...”) in paragraph 3. However, these errors are minor and do not interfere with the clarity of the ideas being presented.

3 分范文

There is no current proof that advancing technology will deteriorate the ability of humans to think. On the contrary, advancements in technology had advanced our vast knowledge in many fields, opening opportunities for further understanding and achievement. For example, the problem of debilitating illnesses and diseases such as Alzheimer's disease is slowly being solved by the technological advancements in stem cell research. The future ability of growing new brain cells and the possibility to reverse the onset of Alzheimer's is now becoming a reality. This shows our initiative as humans to better our health demonstrates greater ability of humans to think.

One aspect where the ability of humans may initially be seen as an example of deteriorating minds is the use of internet and cell phones. In the past humans had to seek out information in many different environments and aspects of life. Now humans can sit in a chair and type anything into a computer and get an answer. Our reliance on this type of technology can be detrimental if not regulated and regularly substituted for other information sources such as human interactions and hands on learning. I think if humans understand that we should not have such a reliance on computer technology, that we as a species will advance further by utilizing the opportunity of computer technology as well as the other sources of information outside of a computer. Supplementing our knowledge with internet access is surely a way for technology to solve problems while continually advancing the human race.

考官评论

This essay never moves beyond a superficial discussion of the issue. The writer attempts to develop two points: that advancements in technology have progressed our knowledge in many fields and that supplementing rather than relying on technology is “surely a way for technology to solve problems while continually advancing the human race.” Each point, then, is developed with relevant but insufficient evidence. In discussing the potential of technology to advance knowledge in many fields (a broad subject, rife with possible examples), the writer uses only one limited and very brief example from a specific field (medicine and stem-cell research).

Development of the second point is hindered by a lack of specificity and organization. The writer creates what might be best described as an outline. The writer cites a need for regulation/supplementation and warns of the detriment of over-reliance upon technology. However, the explanation of both the problem and solution is vague and limited (“Our reliance ... can be detrimental. If humans understand that we should not have such a reliance ... we will advance further”). There is neither explanation of consequences nor clarification of what is meant by “supplementing.” This second paragraph is a series of generalizations that are loosely connected and lack a much-needed grounding.

In the essay, there are some minor language errors and a few more serious flaws (e.g., “The future ability of growing new brain cells” or “One aspect where the ability of humans may initially be seen as an example of deteriorating minds”). Despite the accumulation of such flaws, the writer's meaning is generally clear. Because of its limited development, however, this essay earns a score of 3.

范文 7-claim & reason 类型

Claim: The best test of an argument is its ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint.

Reason: Only by being forced to defend an idea against the doubts and contrasting views of others does one really discover the value of that idea.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the claim and the reason on which that claim is based.

满分范文

The claim that the best test of an argument is its ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint is a compelling one. The reason given for this claim is that only through defending an idea against all possible criticism does the idea gain true and tested merit. Indeed, it is this very reason which forms the basis of academic scholarship: by debating and discussing opposing ideas in a collective discourse, we are able to home in upon those ideas which are truly of value. The concept that an argument should be based on sound principles that convince even those who are biased against it falls in line with the foundation of our post- Enlightenment society of reason.

Consider, for example, two disparate political parties with vastly different approaches to governing a country. If, in this tense political climate, a representative from one party raises an argument which she can defend openly in front of a group of her opponents, the value of the idea becomes clear. Say, perhaps, that a representative proposes a new strategy for increasing employment which falls much more in line with her own party's philosophy than with the other party's. By arguing with representatives from the opposing party, and by addressing each and every counterpoint that they raise to her new employment policy, the potential flaws in her idea are laid utterly bare. Furthermore, the logic and reason of her points must be measured in the balance against the biases and emotions of her listeners. If after such a conversation she is able to convince the opposing party that her proposal holds some merit and might actually be beneficial for the citizens of their country, then its value becomes far more evident than if she were a dictator who had merely administered her vision unchecked. It is apparent from this example that the ideology of convincing others with opposing viewpoints is pervasive in the way many governments and institutions are structured, such as our own— through checks and balances, public discourse, and productive disagreement.

The strongest reason for the excerpt's validity is found by comparing the claim to its reverse. Imagine a scenario where one is asked to present one's argument, but the group of people to whom one is presenting already espouse those very ideas: "preaching to the choir" is the ubiquitous idiom we use to describe this phenomenon. In this situation, it becomes irrelevant whether or not a particular argument holds those indicators of merit: logic and reason grounded in evidence. Even the most inflammatory or tenuous arguments would not be exposed for their true hollowness by a group who were unwilling or unable to question the speaker. The "choir" presents no challenge to the argument, and in doing so the argument's merit cannot be tested. In fact, it is this lack of challenge which can lead to stagnation both in the governing of nations—consider, as mentioned above, dictators who eliminate the possibility of dissent—and in academic discourse, where complacency with prevailing ideas can halt the creation of new and possibly contradictory findings. For this, we see that being forced to defend an idea against the doubt of others does indeed bring out its true worth; in the opposing situation, whether or not the argument holds intrinsic merit, this merit cannot be tested or discerned in any way.

There is, however, one modification which makes the claim more complete. The claim suggests that the best test for an argument is its ability to convince others, which may lead to the inference that an argument which cannot convince others holds no value. However, this inference is not true, and here lies the caveat to the claim. Throughout history there are ideas or arguments that are perhaps too modern, beyond their times, and in these situations those who oppose them refuse to believe an argument that is later on discovered to be entirely true and valid. Imagine, for example, Galileo's attempts to convince his contemporaries that the Earth revolved around the Sun, and not vice versa. In the scientific climate of his time, others simply couldn't accept Galileo's reasoned argument despite his multiple attempts to convince them. In this instance, the value of Galileo's argument actually could not be tested by defending it in front

of others. The value only became apparent later on, when other scientists began to repeat and understand the insightful calculations that Galileo had made much earlier. So while convincing the opposition is certainly one mark of a good argument, it is not always the ultimate test.

In conclusion, the examples discussed reveal that the worth of an argument can be measured through its ability to withstand dissent and doubt. As long as an argument is not deemed invalid by the mere fact that no others are persuaded by it, it is reasonable to claim that the best way to test an argument is to attempt to convince those who oppose it.

考官评论

In addressing the specific task directions, this outstanding response presents a cogent examination of the issue and conveys meaning skillfully. After stating a clear position in agreement with both the claim and its reason, the writer emphasizes the significance of the latter: “It is this very reason which forms the basis of academic scholarship: by debating and discussing opposing ideas in a collective discourse, we are able to home in upon those ideas which are truly of value.” Skillfully, the writer demonstrates the validity of the claim by comparing arguments presented to different audiences. First, a political representative defends a proposal against the arguments of the opposing party. Here, the proposal is fully tested “through checks and balances, public discourse, and productive disagreement.” In contrast, the writer considers a similar presentation of ideas to a like-minded group (“preaching to the choir”) and concludes that, in the absence of discourse or dissent, the merit of an idea cannot be determined. Finally, the writer reexamines the claim and finds an exception to it (the rejection by his contemporaries of Galileo’s reasoned argument), and modifies the claim as follows: “So while convincing the opposition is certainly one mark of a good argument, it is not always the ultimate test.” Examples and reasons are both compelling and persuasive, and language and syntax are consistently precise and effective, as in the following: “In fact, it is this lack of challenge which can lead to stagnation both in the governing of nations—consider, as mentioned above, dictators who eliminate the possibility of dissent—and in academic discourse, where complacency with prevailing ideas can halt the creation of new and possibly contradictory findings.” Because of its superior facility, fluent and precise presentation of ideas, and clear and insightful position, this response clearly earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

As an undergraduate college student, I have come to understand that many of my peers are very emotionally attached to their opinions and political viewpoints. While a gut reaction may tell you that what you believe is correct, that initial instinct is not sufficient in backing up an opinion or idea. In a court of law, or in a debate, one must use rational reasoning and clear, specific examples when arguing a side. Oftentimes, one does not realize how well (or, conversely, how little) one knows a subject until those ideas are challenged. It is through debate, and through the process of being challenged by an opposing viewpoint, that one really begins to understand why they believe what they believe, and how intellectually sound those reasons are.

Many times, over the course of my education, I have come into contact with those whose viewpoints differ from my own. I consider myself to be a person with an open mind, and I enjoy debate with others who value different sides of an argument than I do. In those conversations with others, it is easy to tell who is educated on a topic, and who has had a gut, emotional reaction to the issue being discussed. Those who know about the topic use specific examples to explain why they feel the way they do. Those who don't sometimes resort to more emotional persuasive methods, and sometimes the discussion can become heated.

It is through discussions such as these that I have been able to shape my own opinions and viewpoints on current social issues. I appreciate being challenged by my peers or someone who is "playing devil's advocate" because, through that process, I am able to really examine the motives behind my beliefs. Sometimes, I have encountered discussions that have led me to realize that I simply do not know enough about a topic to hold a valid discussion about it. Other times, I have realized that I am well-versed on the subject, and my opinion or viewpoint is logically sound.

While I agree that this process of challenge is valuable in the formation and upholding of personal viewpoints and opinions, I do not believe that a person should enter into a conversation with the specific purpose of persuading others to change their opinions. Opinions are highly personal, and each person has a reason to believe what they do. It is valuable to question beliefs and opinions, but it is not constructive to feel that your opinion is best and others need to believe what you believe or be considered wrong. I think that there must exist a balance between questioning the beliefs of others and being able to understand why other people believe what they believe. It is more important to be able to understand another person's perspective on a subject than it is to change their mind. In other words, you may disagree with someone, but it is important to be able to see why they believe what they believe. This promotes a well-roundedness that is important in intellectual discussion, and, indeed, in many areas of life.

Though the best test of an argument is challenge (and the subsequent ability to meet the challenge of defense or question the validity of the original opinion), I do not necessarily believe that the challenge must involve convincing someone with an opposing viewpoint that you are correct. You may challenge the idea of others—and be challenged—without feeling as though you must change the minds of others. While discussion of this type may result in changing someone's mind, I don't believe that that should be the goal. The goal of such a discussion should be to share thoughts and ideas, to uphold your own ideas, and to challenge ideas that may be based on emotion or instinct. In this way, we may grow intellectually in an amiable way without stunting the growth of those around us.

考官评论

This response presents a generally thoughtful, well-developed analysis of the issue in addressing the specific task directions. The writer introduces the response's position by first addressing the reason given in the prompt, rather than the claim itself. Through generally thoughtful analysis of personal experiences, the writer agrees that challenges to one's beliefs by those with contrasting views play a vital role in shaping and testing the validity of one's convictions. Turning next to the claim, the writer rejects the assertion that the ability to convince someone with an opposing viewpoint is the best test of an argument. Instead, the writer argues that more is gained by understanding the views of others than by convincing them of the superiority of one's own position. Although a minor digression follows in the discussion of the importance of respecting the opinions of others, this does not detract significantly from the logical flow of analysis; it does, however, suggest that the response is generally thoughtful rather than cogent and compelling. The concluding paragraph demonstrates the writer's ability to formulate a cohesive position on all aspects of the issue. Also, ideas are presented clearly with appropriate vocabulary and sentence variety, as in this example: "I appreciate being challenged by my peers or someone who is 'playing devil's advocate' because, through that process, I am able to really examine the motives behind my beliefs." Overall the response demonstrates facility with the conventions of standard written English. For all the reasons above, the response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

Whether valuing one's own ideas requires challenging them against the views of others is a contested position. This is problematic when we seek to choose the proper action, especially when it comes to religious beliefs and political ideals. It seems though that convincing those who have an alternative perspective on a specific topic will ultimately be what allows us to recognize the value of our own stance.

Some argue that the values of our ideas are realized without being discussed with those holding a different point of view. The proponents of this position claim that as long as we are convinced of our views, then there will be no need to challenge them by considering the ideas of others. For example, let us consider religious beliefs. One may argue that it will be unnecessary to establish any exchange of ideas between different religions, as such exchange will have no effect at all. Religious arguments are presented in the first place to be upheld by faith and not reason. Accordingly, such ideas should not be contested and contrasted with others, as that will only lead to religious tension. Religious tension in the first place is the outcome of dominant religious groups trying to force their views on others who hold different beliefs.

Nevertheless, it seems it is still necessary to challenge our positions against the critical arguments especially of those who have an opposing view. The main force of this argument stems from the claim made by John Stuart Mill of the fallibility of our ideas. This view has also been advocated by a number of contemporary philosophers, especially Jurgen Habermas. The recognition that our arguments are fallible will urge us to continuously consider alternatives while contesting our beliefs against those of others. In the case of international terrorism for instance, we do believe that considering the view of others is required. The destruction of the twin towers in New York possibly would not have occurred if there had been any dialogue between the two contesting parties. The notion of utilizing terrorism for arriving at particular political goals would be subjected to thorough criticism. Consequently, those who appeal to terrorism as a legitimate mean to arriving at ends will in the least recognize the fallibility of their position beforehand. This however can only be done through contesting it against those who hold a different view and not against those who are already convinced of the legitimacy of terrorism.

Ultimately, it seems that challenging our views against contrasting perspectives does appear to be the best way to test the soundness of an idea. This stems primarily for our recognition of the fallibility of our ideas. Therefore, we should always consider any argument we hold to be contestable. This will prompt us to discuss our ideas against people who hold opposing views first and foremost in order to see whether our beliefs are right or not.

考官评论

In addressing the specific task directions, this response presents a competent analysis of the issue and conveys meaning with acceptable clarity. It begins with the writer agreeing with the claim: "convincing those who have an alternative perspective on a specific topic will ultimately be what allows us to recognize the value of our own stance." Before developing this position, however, the writer considers the views of others who assert that the value of a belief can only be determined by one who holds the same belief and acknowledges that circumstances exist when efforts to convince others of one's views can be futile, as in exchanges between those who hold faith-based beliefs. According to the writer, such efforts should be avoided as they have a greater potential to create religious strife than to ascertain the soundness of ideas.

The writer then reaffirms agreeing with the claim and reason and suggests that they stem from and align with the views of Mill and Habermas: “The recognition that our arguments are fallible will urge us to continuously consider alternatives while contesting our beliefs against those of others.” However, to rise to the level of a 5 or 6, the response must go beyond merely mentioning two philosophers to discuss in some depth the intersection of their theories with the writer’s own position. Such philosophical underpinnings of the response offer rich possibilities for exploration and development but they are left unexamined, and the writer even declines to elaborate on his or her own views. Instead, the writer offers an example, also unexplored, of the destruction of the Twin Towers on 9/11 and argues that the attack might not have occurred had the terrorists allowed their views to be challenged and the fallibility of their beliefs exposed. While this does not demonstrate thoughtful probing or insightful consideration of the issue especially because it seems to contradict what the writer has said earlier about challenging one’s religious views, it does provide a relevant example to support the writer’s position. Thus, the analysis remains only competent. In spite of some errors, the response generally demonstrates control of the conventions of standard written English. And as the following example shows, ideas are expressed with acceptable clarity: “Consequently, those who appeal to terrorism as a legitimate mean to arriving at ends will in the least recognize the fallibility of their position beforehand.” For its competent analysis, relevant examples and reasons, and its sufficient control of language, the response earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, and this can often lead to debates between parties with opposing views. Though some would describe debate as combative, it can be much more. Debate is essential to the development of well formed ideas because it forces the participants to more deeply analyze not only their viewpoint but also the opposing viewpoint. By defending your stance on an issue or idea you are naturally deepening your own understanding of it through deeper analysis and reflection.

When debating an issue the opposing sides puts up criticisms to cast doubt on ones stance. Naturally that person must not only discredit said criticisms but also attempt to weaken the opposing sides argument. This process naturally forces you to analyze the issue from both sides, both trying to anticipate and deflect the attacks from the opposition. A deeper understanding and appreciation of ones ideas comes as a result of this reflection.

Another natural by product of debate is discovering the value and truth of said idea to you. Most often people choose to defend positions that they agree with and believe in. For example, some people would not defend a pro-choice stance because it is not something that personally believe in. When defending a stance it is often times critical to believe in at least part of what you are fighting for.

Many differing opinions exist in the world and the beauty is we can learn and enrich ourselves almost all of them. Defending your ideas against opposing views enables you to deepen your understanding of your ideas and those of others. Along with this deepened understanding comes a greater appreciation of your own ideas and values. This is truly the height of debate and discussion.

考官评论

Demonstrating some competence in understanding the issue and addressing the task directions, this response presents a clear position best illustrated in its conclusion: “Defending your ideas against opposing views enables you to deepen your understanding of your ideas and those of others. Along with this deepened understanding comes a greater appreciation of your own ideas and values. This is truly the height of debate and discussion.” The writer argues that debate can lead to a deeper understanding of issues as both sides of an argument are analyzed in order for a person to be able to defend ideas from criticism, weaken an opponent’s position, and discover the value and truth of personal beliefs. While this is a valid line of reasoning, it is developed only superficially as the writer relies on unsupported assertions. The only example appears in the third paragraph, the “pro-choice stance,” but it is left unexplored and undeveloped. Much of the response consists of slight modifications of the same idea, that of deepening understanding. Notice the repetition of words and phrases in the first, second, and fourth paragraphs: “deepening your own understanding,” “deeper understanding and appreciation,” “with this deepened understanding comes a greater appreciation.” While the response exhibits some flaws in grammar, usage, and syntax, meaning is generally clear. Overall, the response earns a score of 3 primarily because of limited development and its reliance on unsupported claims.



ARGUMENT

范文 1 -evidence 类型

The following appeared in an article written by Dr. Karp, an anthropologist.

"Twenty years ago, Dr. Field, a noted anthropologist, visited the island of Tertia and concluded from his observations that children in Tertia were reared by an entire village rather than by their own biological parents. However, my recent interviews with children living in the group of islands that includes Tertia show that these children spend much more time talking about their biological parents than about other adults in the village. This research of mine proves that Dr. Field's conclusion about Tertian village culture is invalid and thus that the observation-centered approach to studying cultures is invalid as well. The interview-centered method that my team of graduate students is currently using in Tertia will establish a much more accurate understanding of child-rearing traditions there and in other island cultures."

Write a response in which you discuss what **specific evidence** is needed to evaluate the argument and explain how the evidence would **weaken or strengthen** the argument.

6 分范文

It might seem logical, at first glance, to agree with the argument in Dr. Karp's article that children in Tertia actually are raised by their biological parents (and perhaps even, by implication, that an observation-centered approach to anthropological study is not as valid as an interview-centered one). However, in order to fully evaluate this argument, we need to have a significant amount of additional evidence. The argument could end up being much weaker than it seems, or it might actually be quite valid. In order to make that determination, we need to know more than analyze what we learn.

The first piece of evidence that we would need in order to evaluate Dr. Karp's claims is information about whether or not Tertia and the surrounding island group have changed significantly in the past 20 years. Dr. Field conducted his observational study 20 years ago, and it is possible that Tertia has changed significantly since then. For example, if we had evidence that in the intervening years Westerners had settled on the island and they introduced a more typical Western-style family structure, it would certainly weaken Dr. Karp's argument. In that case, the original study could have been accurate, and Dr. Karp's study could be correct, as well, though his conclusion that Dr. Field's method is ineffective would be seriously weakened.

Another piece of evidence that might help us evaluate this claim involves the exact locations where Dr. Karp's interviews took place. According to this article, Dr. Karp and his graduate students conducted interviews of "children living in the group of islands that includes Tertia." If we were to learn that they never interviewed a single Tertian child, it would significantly weaken the conclusion. It could turn out to be the case, for example, that children on Tertia are raised communally, whereas children on other islands nearby are raised by their biological parents.

In order to fully evaluate this article, we would also need to learn more about the interview questions that Dr. Karp's team used. What exactly did they ask? We don't know, nor do we know what the children's responses actually were. What did they say about their biological parents? The mere fact that they speak more frequently about their biological parents than they do about other adults does not mean that they are raised by their biological parents. It would significantly undermine Dr. Karp's argument if it turned out that the children said things like how much they missed their parents or how their parents had left them in a communal environment. Without knowing WHAT the children said, it is hard to accept Dr. Karp's conclusion.

It is slightly more difficult to discuss the evidence we might need in order to evaluate the more interesting claims in Dr. Karp's article, namely his extension of the results of his study to a conclusion that interview-centered methods are inherently more valid than observation-centered approaches. In order to fully evaluate this claim, in fact, we would need to look at many more examples of interview-based and observation-based anthropological studies and we would also need to look into different study designs. Perhaps Dr. Field did not conduct an effective observational study, but other observational approaches could be effective. In order to make such grandiose claims, Dr. Karp really needs a lot of additional evidence (ideally a meta-analysis of hundreds of anthropological studies).

Clearly, then, we need to have additional evidence in order to get a more complete understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of Dr. Karp's article. We need to know about Tertia and the surrounding islands, whether or not they have changed over the past 20 years. We also need to know about study design (Dr. Karp's and Dr. Field's). And we really need a lot more information if we want to extend the results of a study about one island culture to all anthropological fieldwork.

考官评论

This outstanding response clearly addresses the specific task directions and presents a cogent, insightful analysis by specifically detailing the impact that different pieces of evidence would have on the argument. The introductory paragraph sets up the organization of the response, and each body paragraph provides the sort of compelling development typical in responses that receive a score of 6. For example, after the writer discusses possible evidence that Tertian child-rearing practices have changed over the past 20 years, he or she clearly explains the impact information about those changes might have on the argument, saying, "In that case, the original study could have been accurate, and Dr. Karp's study could be correct, as well, though his conclusion that Dr. Field's method is ineffective would be seriously weakened." Not only is this argument compelling, but it also demonstrates sophisticated syntax and facility with language. There is more insightful development in the fifth paragraph, in which the writer examines Dr. Karp's claims about interview-based studies. Although there are a few typos and minor errors here, nothing in the response distracts from the overall fluency of the writing. Sentences like this one demonstrate the fluent and precise diction and varied syntax that are evident throughout the response: "It could turn out to be the case, for example, that children on Tertia are raised communally, whereas children on other islands nearby are raised by their biological parents." Because of its compelling and insightful development and fluent and precise language, this response fits all of the bullet points for a 6.

5 分范文

There seems to be an abundance of evidence that, if we were to examine it closely, might make us reconsider Dr. Karp's argument here. If we look first at the evidence that might weaken this argument, we can see a lot of the problems with Dr. Karp's article. It would certainly weaken the argument if we were to discover that Dr. Karp and his students did not actually conduct any of their interviews on the island of Tertia itself. Looking closely at the article, we see that Dr. Karp claims the interviews were conducted with children from the island group that includes Tertia. There is no evidence that they interviewed Tertian children. It would definitely weaken the argument if we were to learn that they interviewed children only on islands close to Tertia. Those islands may or may not have similar child-rearing traditions, and geographic proximity does not guarantee societal similarity.

Another piece of evidence that would weaken the argument could come from transcripts of the interviews themselves. Dr. Karp's article makes the claim that the children "spend much more time talking about their biological parents than about other adults," but he gives no indication of what exactly they say about their biological parents. After all, the children may be talking about how they never see their parents.

One more important piece of evidence that might undermine the argument Dr. Karp is making in this article. He admits that twenty years have passed since Dr. Field's study was conducted, but he does not provide evidence that proves child-rearing techniques have not changed significantly in that time. Any number of factors could have led to a significant shift in how children are raised. Influences from other cultures, significant catastrophic events, or a change in government structures could have led to a change in family dynamics. Any evidence of such changes would clearly undermine Dr. Karp's argument.

If we went looking for evidence that could strengthen the argument, we might also find something interesting. Obviously, some of the evidence above might strengthen the argument if they were NOT as discussed above (e.g., if there were evidence that the Tertian islands have NOT changed since Dr. Field's study or if there were transcripts that showed the children spoke about how much they loved living with their biological parents). However, if we discovered that there are numerous interview-based studies that confirm Dr. Karp's findings, it would go a long way toward bolstering his claim about Tertian child-rearing AND his claim about interview-centered studies being more effective. Another piece of evidence that would strengthen Dr. Karp's argument is undermining Dr. Field's original study. Maybe Dr. Field was sloppy, for example.

Dr. Karp's article, then, ends up looking like something of an empty shell. Depending on the evidence we find to fill it out, we may discover that it is quite convincing, or we could determine that he is full of hot air.

考官评论

This strong response presents a generally thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the argument, and it follows the specific task directions quite clearly. This writer approaches the task by first discussing the evidence that might weaken Dr. Karp's argument and then, in somewhat less depth, considering the evidence that could strengthen it. In both cases the writer analyzes the ways in which the evidence would bear on the argument. For example, the writer notes, "Influences from other cultures, significant catastrophic events, or a change in government structures could have led to a change in family dynamics.

Any evidence of such changes would clearly undermine Dr. Karp's argument." Although the development presented here is strong, the response does not present the compelling development required for a 6. For instance, in the first paragraph there is some repetition, and in the third paragraph the reader must fill in the implications of potential "changes" in Tertia, which are not fully fleshed out. How could a catastrophic event or a change in governmental structure have led to changes in child-rearing traditions? The development, then, is strong but not outstanding. Also, the response demonstrates some facility with language, though it does not convey meaning skillfully enough to merit a score of 6. In general, the response demonstrates strong writing skills, in spite of some minor errors like the sentence fragment that begins paragraph three. Sentences like this one demonstrate the quality of the writing seen throughout the response: "Those islands may or may not have similar child-rearing traditions, and geographic proximity does not guarantee societal similarity." In terms of writing skill and analysis, then, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

Dr. Karp's arguments that his research proves that observation-centered research is invalid and that his interview-centered method "will establish a much more accurate understanding of child-rearing traditions there and in other island cultures" need more support. While the findings from Dr. Karp's interviews do challenge Dr. Field's results, one then cannot make the assumption that Dr. Field's research is invalid. This essay will attempt to explain three ways in which Dr. Karp can strengthen his argument.

First, Dr. Karp should provide more information about the content of the interviews. Misinterpretation from observation can be as likely as misinterpretation in interviews. It is possible that while children may spend more time talking about their own biological parents, other people from the village are still assisting in most of the rearing of the child. Perhaps asking the children how much time they spend with their parents, who disciplines them, and other specific questions about rearing would provide a more complete answer about who exactly is raising the children.

Second, Dr. Karp could provide some information about societal changes in the past twenty years. If there have been significant changes on the island of Tertia, it is possible that both anthropologists are correct. Twenty years ago, the entire village raised children, and now, biological parents raise their own children. Recent events could explain the change - such as introduction of Western mass media or changes in government (monarchy to democracy). Perhaps even interviewing adults to get a better understanding on child rearing. Not to mention, interpreting information from children and using that information to generalize about an entire island is not the most effective means.

Thirdly, Dr. Karp needs more proof that the observation-centered approach to studying cultures is invalid. A potential mistake in one article can hardly invalidate an entire method of research. Other anthropologists who employ the interview-centered method need to dispute the work of anthropologists who use the observation-centered approach. Only when a significant amount of research can be disproved can an entire method of research be invalidated.

To conclude, Dr. Karp needs to do more research and provide more evidence before his large claims can be fully supported. In fact, it will take more than Dr. Karp alone to prove observation-centered method of research is invalid and further, that the interview-centered method is better. In terms of his own research, Dr. Karp needs to conduct more interviews on the Tertia islands and scientifically prove Dr. Field's research wrong.

考官评论

This adequate response manages to identify some important features of the argument, presenting a competent examination and generally following the task directions. The response does not merit a score of 5 or 6, however, because it does not present compelling or insightful development. The response identifies basic points about the content of the interviews, possible changes in Tertia, and observation-centered studies, but these points are developed only adequately. Development in paragraph four ("Thirdly . . .") is generic and thin, and the final paragraph just recapitulates the assertions made earlier. The response does follow the specific task instructions, but it does not develop its discussion of specific evidence fully. For example, there is a claim that "specific questions about rearing would provide a more complete answer about who exactly is raising the children," but the response does not explain what sorts of questions would

give which answers or how those answers would strengthen or weaken the argument. Also, language control in this response is merely adequate, not strong. There are some typos and other errors (e.g., a sentence fragment in paragraph 3: “Perhaps even interviewing adults to get a better understanding on child rearing”), but the response generally demonstrates control of the conventions of standard written English, and main points are made with reasonable clarity. Because of its adequate control of language and competent analysis, this response earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

It will be very inappropriate to condemn Dr. Field's observations and findings. A critical look and analyses of the argument shows that details of Dr. Field's work was not given out. In fact, it is sad on the side of the writer to think that Dr. Fields work is invalid.

First, the fact that the children of Tertia spend much time talking about their biological parents than about other adults in the village can be interpreted in a different way. The writer did not give any clue on what exactly the children were saying about their biological parents. It could be that they were talking about their parents irresponsibility of rearing them by themselves than leaving them in the hands of the whole community to bring them up. In fact, the argument could have been strengthened if the writer gave what exactly the children were talking about.

On the other hand, the writer failed on his or her part as a researcher to look at the time frame from the time Dr. Field did his analyses to the the time writer also conducted His or Her research. This would have given him the insight as what new developments has taken place within the twenty years gap that Dr. Field did His analyses. The writer's argument would have given a lot of meaning if the writer had research into the cultural developments that has taken place since the time Dr. fields last visited and didcompleted His work at Tertia.

Also, as a reader, the tone this writing is not very convincing. It almost seems like Dr. Karp is making Dr. Fields look bad, instead of supporting his own research with information. He really only says one sentence about his own research, the rest of it is about how Fields work is not as good and saying things about Fields work. He needs to have more details about his own work to really sell the reader on it. He needs to write more about what the interview-centered method is, since he does not even say what it is. This will be more convincing if it is less of an attack on Dr. Field and more about the researches.

On the whole the writer's work is incomplete and His or Her criticisms are unfounded. The writer needs to change the qualitative way of His or Her research into a more quatitative approach. If done in this way the impact of His or Her findings will be very strong and convincing.

考官评论

Although this response analyzes some important features of the argument, it is limited in development and often lacks acceptable clarity in expressing its ideas. In particular, this response contains occasional major errors and frequent minor errors that can interfere with meaning. Misused words, subject/verb agreement problems, and other lapses occur throughout the response. In addition to the problems with language control, the response demonstrates limited relevant development. It is true that the response makes an attempt to follow the specific task instructions, identifying the fact that the argument might be strengthened by evidence that the children were talking in a positive manner about their parents. However, the response does not explain exactly how this evidence would strengthen the argument. Similarly, there is discussion of the elapsed time between the two studies, but the response does not clarify how information about the "cultural developments" over the past 20 years would strengthen the argument Dr. Karp is making. Additionally, some of the points the response is making are not actually relevant to an analysis of the logic of the argument. The discussion of Dr. Karp's tone in the fourth paragraph, for example, is a rhetorical critique, not a logical one. There is an attempt to talk about evidence ("He needs to have more

details . . .”), but the focus in this paragraph is on “selling” the reader, not creating a persuasive argument. Because of its limited development and language control, this response earns a score of 3.

范文 2-evidence 类型

The following is a memorandum from the business manager of a television station.

“Over the past year, our late-night news program has devoted increased time to national news and less time to weather and local news. During this time period, most of the complaints received from viewers were concerned with our station’s coverage of weather and local news. In addition, local businesses that used to advertise during our late-night news program have just canceled their advertising contracts with us. Therefore, in order to attract more viewers to the program and to avoid losing any further advertising revenues, we should restore the time devoted to weather and local news to its former level.”

Write a response in which you discuss what specific **evidence** is needed to evaluate the argument and explain how the evidence would weaken or strengthen the argument.

6 分范文

The decision to restore the time devoted to weather and local news to its former level is one that should be made with more careful consideration of evidence, data, and viewer/client feedback by the business manager of this television station. Many assumptions have been made on the business manager's part about the exact cause of the problems with the program. He or she should approach the idea of making changes with more caution.

The memorandum stated that more complaints received from viewers were concerned with the station's coverage of weather and local news, but it did not state the nature of the complaints. The viewers may have been complaining about the accuracy or quality of the weather and local news rather than the shortened length of the segments. More specific information about the complaints – including whether they were about the late-night edition or about other news programs during the day – would support the argument because it would show if there was a relationship between the shortened length of the segments in the late-night news program and the viewers' dissatisfaction with these particular segments. Sometimes it is the personalities and the chemistry of the news anchors that govern people's decisions about which station's news they watch. The business manager will never know unless he asks the viewers exactly why they do or do not enjoy watching his news program.

Additionally, stated in the memorandum was the fact that local businesses had just canceled their advertising contracts with the station. An assumption being made is that the reason businesses were pulling their ads was directly related to the shortened segments of the weather and local news. Considering the fact that more than one business just pulled their ad, other factors could have been involved, such as any controversy that the station's national news may have recently brought up. Janet Jackson's notorious wardrobe malfunction comes to mind. Though that incident happened during a national sporting event, there are many controversial national news topics that have the potential to create such a stir with the local public. If the manager could establish that businesses discontinued advertising contracts specifically because they were displeased with the change in news coverage, and that the remaining advertisers are on the verge of leaving if coverage of weather and local news is not increased, that information would help eliminate other possible explanations.

Evidence that research had been conducted to find specific ways to attract viewers to a news program would also strengthen the argument. Moreover, findings from research about what viewers would like to see on the program may help. Assuming that they would like to see more weather and local news does not seem safe. Perhaps they are looking for something besides national news, local news, and weather all together. Or possibly they are tuning into another station that has something in their program that draws their attention. Data about which ratings are highest and what people are watching would assist the business manager in his or her decision about how to change the program.

The station cannot expect to go back to the programming it once had and be successful. Obviously, something about the previous programming must not have been working; otherwise they would not have changed their structure the last time. They cannot expect to see different results if they go back to the same structure. Careful analysis of all the factors I have presented is the best first step to making a change in the structure of their news program.

考官评论

This outstanding response clearly identifies specific evidence necessary to evaluate the argument, and explains lucidly why the evidence is necessary. This response does a particularly nice job of both identifying specific evidence that would strengthen the prompt's argument and identifying evidence that would undermine the argument. For example, the response notes that while the argument assumes that lost advertising contracts are the result of the station's decreased attention to weather and local news, myriad factors, this assumption is unsupported by specific evidence. The response then provides a cogent and thorough discussion of the kinds of evidence needed to examine this assumption and how the evidence might strengthen or weaken the prompt's argument.

Each paragraph here is fully and cogently developed, and the response as a whole is organized logically. Finally, the response consistently demonstrates fluency and skillful use of language. For these reasons, the response earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

As the business manager of the television station, I would be concerned with two things; the fact that there are fewer advertisers during the late-night news, and the increased complaints received from viewers about weather and local news. To support the argument that the station should restore the time devoted to weather and local news, I would carefully analyze the reasons for these factors.

In regards to the complaints received, I would gather specific accounts that address both the issue of weather and local news. Several recorded phone calls, emails, or letters would suffice to show first-hand data that there is concern among some viewers. Next, I would do a thorough study into what percent of complaints are about news and weather, as opposed to other content of the program. If content complaints as well as specific weather and local-news related complaints are up, this would not support my argument.

If historical evidence about viewership and number of written grievances could be gathered, this would be even better. The station could look at the specific complaints, and number of comments from the previous year and compare them to this year's. Next, I would conduct surveys of viewers to understand the reasons why they watch the late-night news. I would also look at trends and variations among viewers of morning, evening, and late-night news. There is a chance that the demographics of individuals watching at these various times are completely different. A broad large-scale survey could be conducted to determine viewer interests. If other stations have taken such measures, perhaps this station could get a copy of results, to look at larger trends in the country. Before we assume that bringing back more local news and weather will increase our viewership, we need to understand why those individuals are not happy right now.

In terms of a station's success, funding from advertisers is very important. A station can run if they lack the audience, but have a financial backing; not the other way around. I would ask the advertisers who have dropped their contracts with the station why they did so. If the reasoning was because the receptionist was rude to them last time they called the station, then we could address that problem instead of rearranging our programming. We could also analyze what kinds of local advertisers are leaving. It could be that they have found more of an audience for their product advertising on another time-slot, or more specific special-interest cable channel that speaks more to their market. It would also be beneficial to speak with the advertisers as their marketing people may have better insight into the viewership of the late-night news than the station has. The previously mentioned viewer survey could have already been done by the local business advertisers, and this could help the station realign itself with the market. Though it might be difficult to coordinate, it would definitely be advantageous to contact other local station to inquire about their contract status with the local businesses. A general lackluster response from community business could be a result of a larger-scale economic downturn, rather than the change in programming of one station. If the station wants the support back from local business advertisers, it can't just make assumptions about what is driving contracts with television stations.

Lastly, if all evidence seemed to suggest that the decreased coverage of local news and weather was the reason for increased complaints from viewers and dropped contracts of local business advertisers, then there could be a test pilot week or month of heavier coverage of weather and local news during the late-night broadcasting. If complaints are still pouring in, it might be time to fire the news anchor- or at least to thoroughly analyze the possible consequences of and reasons for doing so.

考官评论

This strong response offers a generally thoughtful and well-developed discussion of the specific evidence needed to evaluate the prompt's argument. In particular, the essay cites the need to obtain evidence detailing the nature and scope of the complaints, the preferences of the audience, and the reasons for the cancelled advertising contracts. Although this response sometimes lacks the full and cogent development of a 6, it does indicate how and why different types of evidence are necessary for a thorough evaluation of the argument. The response also occasionally digresses from its discussion of the evidence needed to evaluate the argument into specific strategies the television station might use to gather the needed evidence. On the whole, the essay conveys ideas clearly and demonstrates facility with standard written English but the response does lack the fluency and precision of language necessary for a 6. For these reasons, the response warrants a score of 5.

4 分范文

In order for this argument to be strengthened, specific details about the viewers complaining and the businesses that pulled advertising need to be elucidated.

First, the station should be concerned about what the viewers are specifically complaining about in regards to the weather and local news coverage. It is possible that the viewers were complaining for various reasons, which may include the following: the anchorperson or weatherperson, and their physical appearance, or delivery of the news/weather, the quality of the graphics being used during these segments, or the quality or choice of the stories covered. The television station needs to determine the exact complaints, for it would strengthen the above argument if the complaints were specifically about the time spent on the local news and weather.

Along the lines of clarity, the station needs to determine the reasons why local businesses cancelled their advertising contracts. Alternative reasons for this may include another station offering cheaper air time during the same time slot, the local economy going bad, leading to these companies needing to cut costs in advertising, or consumer reports for the companies that detail better times to advertise to their customers. The television station may be losing these advertising contracts for other reasons than time devoted to local news and weather.

Finally, a closer look at viewer numbers might strengthen the argument that time spent on local news and weather is affecting this aspect. Support for this memorandum would come in the form of viewer percentages dropping the after the time devoted to national news increased. The business manager should make sure that the viewer numbers did not increase over the past year because of the increase in national news coverage. This would invalidate the argument in regards to attracting more viewers.

In conclusion, to strengthen or support the argument that restoring the time devoted to local news and weather would attract new viewers and avoid losing contracts, the business manager needs to outline that the complaints from viewers and cancelling of advertising contracts specifically occurred because of the shift to increased national news coverage.

考官评论

This response earns a score of 4 by demonstrating competence both in its analysis of the argument and in its control of language. The response opens by noting the need for “specific details about the viewers complaining and the businesses that pulled advertising.” It goes on to discuss how evidence suggesting alternative explanations for the viewer complaints and loss of advertising would undermine the argument. Although the essay provides some satisfactory support for and development of its analysis, the analysis as a whole is competent rather than generally thoughtful. Similarly, the response conveys meaning with only acceptable clarity.

3 分范文

The aforementioned argument is a quality assessment of a potentially costly situation. In order for the news agency to ensure its continued success at the level that they once were it is absolutely necessary that they return to the level of local news that they once had. The argument that has been presented to me seems to be logical one. There is a clear statement of the problem and there is a significant amount of detail that leads readers to see that the decline in the amount of business that the station does is directly related to the dereliction that it is given to the local news.

However, in order to make this argument stronger than it already is, I think that there are certain things that could be added to bolster the information that is already here. First of all, it may be necessary to include some sort of survey results from both the community and local businesses to ensure that the reason that they have withdrawn their business is because of the program's focus shift. It may be possible that this station is merely doing a bad job at delivering the news and that this is the reason for the decline. It is important to make sure the motivation for changing formats is the correct one.

Secondly, it should be noted that it is important to examine the complaints that were received during this time period. The information provided does not specify whether there was a spike in the amount of complaints that were coming in, or whether it was merely the same amount as usual. This would also be a point that needs to be examined closely before any definite decision could be made.

All in all, I think that the information that has been provided here is a sound and logical argument for returning the news back to the original format. However, I also feel that if the suggestions that I made were taken seriously, then it may be possible to make this argument even better than it originally was.

考官评论

Although the response seems largely to accept the argument's claims, it demonstrates some competence in addressing the task by noting the need for information that could "bolster the information that is already there." The response goes on to question whether advertisers might have withdrawn for other reasons and whether the level of viewer complaints was any different from the usual, but the discussion does not go much beyond emphasizing the need for information. Moreover, though the discussion implies how particular pieces of evidence would strengthen the response, it does not articulate an explanation. Organization here is adequate, and control of language, though somewhat uneven, is sufficient to convey ideas with acceptable clarity. In short, although the response's organization and control of language might be sufficient to warrant an upper-half score, the response must receive a score of 3 due to its limited development of relevant analysis.

范文 3-questions 类型

The following appeared in a memorandum from the owner of Movies Galore, a chain of video rental stores.

“In order to reverse the recent decline in our profits, we must reduce operating expenses at Movies Galore’s ten video rental stores. Since we are famous for our special bargains, raising our rental prices is not a viable way to improve profits. Last month our store in downtown Marston significantly decreased its operating expenses by closing at 6:00 P.M. rather than 9:00 P.M. and by reducing its stock by eliminating all movies released more than five years ago. Therefore, in order to increase profits without jeopardizing our reputation for offering great movies at low prices, we recommend implementing similar changes in our other nine Movies Galore stores.”

Write a response in which you discuss what **questions** would need to be addressed in order to decide whether implementing the recommendation is likely to have the predicted result and explain how the answers to those questions would help to evaluate the recommendation.

6 分范文

One question which needs to be addressed before implementing the recommendation is whether there are not other ways to improve profits besides cutting operating expenses. Without proof, the author decides, first, that there are only two viable options for increasing the profits of Movies Galore: raising rental prices, and cutting costs. He rules out the first course, and hence claims the second option must be chosen. But it seems there may be alternative methods of increasing profits, such as initiating advertising campaigns or closing unprofitable Movies Galore locations.

Even if it is granted that there are only two options for increasing profitability — cutting costs, and raising rental prices — one might wonder why raising rental prices is so unthinkable. The author implies that because Movies Galore is famous for special bargains, raising the rental prices would eliminate this competitive advantage and decrease profitability. However, in making this conclusion, he makes several assumptions without considering questions that need to be addressed. First, he assumes that there is no room to raise current prices and yet maintain lower prices than competitors. One would need to ask if prices could be increased slightly, while keeping them cheap. Even if there is no room for such a strategy, the author assumes that Movies Galore's reputation for bargain pricing would evaporate if they increased their prices slightly. Perhaps such a reputation would be widespread enough to persist despite a slight increase in prices. And thirdly, even if the reputation for bargains would be eliminated by an increase in prices, the author assumes that Movies Galore cannot change course and be successful in some other way. Perhaps it could instead become known as the store with the friendliest employees. Perhaps it already is, and the author is wrong to believe that a causal relationship between bargain prices and success exists, when the real cause of Movies Galore's good reputation is entirely independent of its prices. The author needs to answer these questions to convince us that profits are caused by bargains, and not by the other factors that may be involved.

Another question that needs to be raised is whether or not the downtown Marston store is truly analogous to the other nine Movies Galore stores. The author seems to assume that because the cost-cutting measures worked at the Marston location, it will work at the others, but this is far from clear. Perhaps the patrons of the other Movies Galore locations would resent such changes in the hours and stock of their local stores.

Perhaps the most important question that needs to be asked is whether the Marston location's changes truly increased profitability. The author writes that the Marston store decreased operating expenses by closing earlier and cutting its stock, but he makes no mention of increased profitability. It is quite possible that the Marston location's profits decreased as a result of their cost cutting, and this is a question that needs to be addressed. The author then jumps to the conclusion that taking similar measures would increase profitability at other locations, though such a connection has not even been established at the Marston store.

Even if the cost-cutting measures increased profitability at the Marston store last month (and a causal relationship, though presumably assumed, is still far from evident), there is no guarantee that such measures would continue to increase profitability over time. One would need to ask: Why not observe how the Marston location's action affect profitability over several months, before implementing such sweeping changes at every store? A single month is a very short time span, and the habits of customers may change slowly. As word gets around that the Marston store has cut their hours and their selection, they may in fact jeopardize their reputation for offering "great movies at low prices." After all, the name of the franchise is Movies Galore, and by drastically reducing the available selection, they may alienate their customer base. If,

as mentioned above, Movies Galore is famous for more than its great bargains — if customers prefer Movies Galore because of its selections, as well — then such a move may drastically reduce profits over time. It seems extremely rash to implement such a new and relatively untried strategy at every Movies Galore location, before the effects can be fully observed and interpreted.

考官评论

This outstanding response clearly addresses the specific task directions and presents a cogent, insightful analysis by discussing specific questions that need to be addressed in order to analyze the argument presented. It is worth noting that although the directions ask for questions, it is not necessary that these be phrased in question form. The response articulately discusses the information needed to evaluate whether the recommendation is likely to have the predicted result and demonstrates how this information would help to evaluate the recommendation. There are many examples of ways in which the writer addresses questions without putting them in question form (e.g., “he assumes that there is no room to raise current prices and yet maintain lower prices than competitors. One would need to ask . . .” or “it seems there may be alternative methods of increasing profits”). Throughout this response, the writer provides the cogent development typical of a 6 response. For example, the discussion of Movies Galore’s reputation gets at a number of flaws in the argument’s reasoning, making nuanced points (e.g., “Perhaps it could instead become known as the store with the friendliest employees. Perhaps it already is . . .”) that create a compelling case for the writer’s objections. Transitions are natural, and the paragraphs build on one another, succinctly and completely developing the writer’s points. Because of its compelling and insightful development and fluent and precise language, this response fits all of the bullet points for a score of 6.

5 分范文

Management's prediction that declining profits could be reversed by reducing operating hours and reducing stock seems to be rash since there is little evidence that proper research has been conducted. It may be true that profits could be restored by cutting operating costs, but management needs to ask whether making these changes would have a negative impact on its best sources of revenue.

The management states that the downtown Marston store "significantly decreased , its operating expenses by closing at 6:00pm rather than 9:00pm." It is reasonable to think that closing at 6:00pm rather than 9:00pm would decrease operating expenses, but the business is concerned with renting movies and these may be the busiest and most profitable hours of operation. Could it be that most people renting movies have normal working hours and have leisure time at night and to fill that time they turn to renting movies? If management researches its daily rental history, it may discover that its peak rental hours are between 6:00pm and 9:00pm. If this is the case, the store could lose significant income or even go out of business altogether. If management wants to reverse a decline in profits by cutting hours of operation and thereby reducing expenses, it would be advantageous to determine through research which block of time during the day is the least profitable and then cut those hours of operation. For instance, if it is found that profits are lowest during the morning hours or around noon, it would be better to close the store during those hours rather than during the hours that bring in the greatest profits.

The management then states that operating expenses will also be cut "by eliminating all movies released ore than five years ago." Again, more research is needed in order to determine if this would indeed help reverse the decline in profits that Movies Galore is experiencing. Is it possible that the success of a movie rental business is based on its ability to provide customers with a wide array of movie selections, both new and old? It could be dangerous for this business to eliminate its stock of older movies without first determining the percentages of income that come from each product. Management should research its history of movie rentals in order to determine if a significant percentage of its profits come from the rental of older movies. Even if little profit does come from older movies, it may still be unwise to eliminate the stock of older movies. If Movies Galore maintains a variety of movies, a person searching for a current movie may decide to rent an older movie as well. This may be especially relevent in the case of a new movie that is a sequel to an older movie or part of a trilogy. Reducing movie variety may also damage the reputation of the stores. The management states that Movie Galore already has a "reputation for offering great movies." If movie variety is suddenly reduced, the stores may gain a negative reputation.

Overall, the management makes a prediction that is untrustworthy and potentially damaging. More research should be conducted to see if indeed such changes to cut operation costs will be effective, and if not, what should be done instead. If the proper investigation is implemented by the management, Movies Galore stores may reverse the recent decline of profits.

考官评论

This strong response presents a generally thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the argument, and it follows the specific task directions clearly. The response approaches the task by asking questions that seek to understand whether the management of Movies Galore truly understands where its greatest profits are generated. It first questions whether closing the stores between 6:00 and 9:00 pm would be optimal since that is when people with "normal working hours" might have the leisure to rent movies, and, then, it

questions whether eliminating movies released more than five years ago would be prudent since it is possible that profits rely on carrying “a wide array of movie selections, both new and old.” In both cases, the writer indicates the specific kinds of information that management would need to gather (e.g., “If management researches its daily rental history, it may discover that its peak rental hours are between 6:00pm and 9:00pm”) in order to determine whether its prediction is valid. Likewise, in both cases, the writer also analyzes the ways that this specific information would impact the predicted result (e.g., “If this is the case, the store could lose significant income or even go out of business altogether”). In general, then, development of the points the writer makes is thorough, but it is not as compelling as that required for a 6. Also, the response, on the whole, demonstrates facility with written English; however, it lacks the fluency necessary to merit a score of 6. In general, writing skills, in spite of a few spelling errors and some repetitious sentence structuring (several sentences in both the second and third paragraphs depend upon an “if . . . then” construction) are strong, as evidenced by the following characteristic sentence: “It is reasonable to think that closing at 6:00pm rather than 9:00pm would decrease operating expenses, but the business is concerned with renting movies and these may be the busiest and most profitable hours of operation.” In terms of writing skill and analysis, then, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

The owner of Movies Galore is proposing a reduction in operating expenses in all of its chain stores. This reduction would consist of closing the stores 3 hours early and reducing its stock to include movies released only within the last 5 years. To determine if this proposition would be effective in increasing profits across the chain, several pieces of additional information would be needed.

First, it is necessary to ask if the Marston store is similar to the other Movies Galore stores. If this is not the case, the proposition might have quite the opposite of the intended effect. The performance of the other stores would be a critical piece to this proposition since what works for one store, may not work for another.

Second, what effect did the reduction in operating expenses had on store profits in Marston? Because the declines in profit are termed to be “recent” and that the reduction of operating expenses happened within the last month, this is unclear. It is possible that only a brief period of low profits, consistent with variability in the market, spurred the reduction and this actually caused a greater decrease in profits. It is also possible that no improvements have been seen in profits since the reduction, rendering it ineffective. Data regarding profits from several months before and several months after the reduction in operating expenses would be necessary to determine if this reduction was at all helpful.

Finally, to what degree did each of the two changes made, closing early and getting rid of older movies, affect profits? To determine if such a change would be helpful, it is important to understand how each variable contributed to the end result, assuming that it was effective. Perhaps closing early resulted in such a decline in the operating costs as employees did not have to be paid, that the reduction in their stock was unnecessary. It could be the the stock reduction actually decreased profits but this was masked by the increased profits caused by closing early. A more in depth analysis of the variables involved is necessary.

To accept such an extreme change in the practices of these stores, the preceeding recommendations should be followed. Specifically, the necessity of the reduction in other stores should be determined, data regarding the effectiveness of the reduction in operating expenses in the Marston store should be analyzed, and an analysis of the components of this reduction should be completed.

考官评论

This adequate response presents a competent examination of the argument and conveys meaning with acceptable clarity. In accordance with the task directions, the response raises appropriate questions that could help to evaluate the recommendation and its predicted result. Unlike the thoughtful development of a 5-level response, however, this response develops its ideas (i.e., answers to the questions it raises) unevenly, sometimes underdeveloping key claims. For example, the relatively brief second paragraph supports the assertion that the downtown Marston store may not be comparable to the chain's other stores, but it does so with minimal reasoning. Other body paragraphs more satisfactorily develop questions about the timing of the recommendation and the profits that have actually been generated, while the conclusion merely recapitulates the assertions made earlier. A basic organizational structure, aided by the use of simple transitions between paragraphs and sufficient sentence variety within paragraphs, are other qualities of this response that underscore its adequacy. The language control is also adequate, demonstrating control, but not facility, with the conventions of standard written English. There

are some minor grammatical errors and typos (e.g., there is a tense error in paragraph 3: “what effect did the reduction in operating expenses had on store profits in Marston?”; there is also vague diction in the same paragraph: “Because the declines in profit are termed to be ‘recent’ and that the reduction of operating expenses happened within the last month, this is unclear”), but the response manages to convey ideas with acceptable clarity overall. Because of its adequate analytical development and language control, this response earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

It is imperative that “Movies Galore” must find a way to reduce operating expenses without jeopardizing its popularity with the customer. The option of reducing operating hours and reducing its stock of available movies is a good start, however these two ideas need some revising in order for them to be successful in turning the company’s profits around.

The reduction of hours needs to be reversed. Instead of closing earlier they should open later. People go to the video store to rent movies more frequently in the evening hours than in the morning. In the morning is when most customers return movies. The adjustment in hours can be structured so that the store opens later in the morning, and costumers can simply return the movies in a drop box, allowing the store to remain open later in the evening for people who want to rent movies.

Reducing the stock by “eliminating all movies released more than five years ago” is a good way to reduce costs, but again it may hurt buisness. Unlike food moves don’t go bad after a certain amount of time. In some cases it is quite the opposite, they become classics. It would be bad business to assume that people will not want to rent movies over five years old, and “Movies Galore” might actually lose customers if they do so. Instead of eliminating an entire group of movies of a certain age, spread the reduction of stock throughout the entire store, making it a more subtle reduction to the consumer, but an effective cost-saver to the store.

The basic ideas of cutting stock and reducing operating hours do indicate saving money, however only if it is done correctly with both the business and the consumer in mind. It is obvious that “Movies Galore” has the consumer in mind because of its refusal to jeopardize their reputation “for offering great movies at a low price.” So they need to consider exactly how their proposals are going to impact the consumer and whether or not they will actually lose business by putting these policies in place.

If teh management at “Movies Galore” uses good business sense then there is no reason that their declining profits cannot be turned around, with little to no affect on the consumer.

考官评论

While this response conveys ideas with acceptable clarity, despite an occasional error, it earns a score in the lower half because it mainly discusses tangential matters. The introductory paragraph, for example, suggests that instead of presenting an examination of the prompt’s logic, the response will offer business advice to turn “the company’s profits around.” And that is what paragraphs 2 and 4 do: they avoid relevant analysis and instead engage in analyzing tangential matters and generally agreeing with the prompt. Paragraph 2, for example, implicitly agrees with the reduction in hours but suggests that a better business tactic would be to switch the early closing for a later closing and later opening. Paragraph 4 agrees with the overall recommendation and concludes that Movies Galore is generally going in the right business direction. What relevant analysis is present occurs in paragraph 3, which questions the wisdom of reducing the stock of older movies since this might hurt rather than help profitability. So, although the response exhibits competent control of the conventions of standard written English, it does not manage to exhibit adequate development of relevant analysis. The fact that its relevant analysis is greatly outweighed by tangential material and business advice indicates that the response is limited in addressing the specific task directions. Thus, it merits a score of 3.

范文 4 questions 类型

The following is taken from a memo from the advertising director of the Super Screen Movie Production Company.

“According to a recent report from our marketing department, during the past year, fewer people attended Super Screen-produced movies than in any other year. And yet the percentage of positive reviews by movie reviewers about specific Super Screen movies actually increased during the past year. Clearly, the contents of these reviews are not reaching enough of our prospective viewers. Thus, the problem lies not with the quality of our movies but with the public’s lack of awareness that movies of good quality are available. Super Screen should therefore allocate a greater share of its budget next year to reaching the public through advertising.”

Write a response in which you discuss what **questions** would need to be answered in order to decide whether the recommendation and the argument on which it is based are reasonable. Be sure to explain how the answers to these questions would help to evaluate the recommendation.

6 分范文

The advertising director of the Super Screen Movie production company believes that increasing the amount of advertising the company does will increase the amount of people attending Super Screen produced movies. He believes this because during the past year fewer people than ever before attended Super Screen produced movies, yet the percentage of positive reviews about specific Super Screen produced movies increased over the past year. Ostensibly the extra advertising would tout the good reviews written about Super Screen movies. Before this plan is implemented, however, Super Screen needs to address some questions about its possible flaws.

First of all, the company needs to ask what the actual number of people attending its movies as compared to the movies of other production companies is. The number of people going to movies may have been in universal decline. If this is the case and more people are going to see Super Screen Movies than the movies of any other production company, advertising about how fun it is to go to the movie theater may do more to boost Super Screen viewership than advertising promoting its own good reviews.

Secondly, the company needs to ask what the actual original number of positive reviews was. If Super Screen movies received 1% positive reviews last year and this year they received 2% positive reviews, getting that message to viewers is not going to increase Super Screen attendance. Making better movies would be much more likely to increase attendance rates.

Finally, Super Screen needs to ask what the relationship is between its viewers and the movie reviewers cited in the memo. Using a survey distributed to its target audience, Super Screen could determine if movie reviews have an effect on their audience's decision to go see a movie, whether movie reviewers tended to have the same taste as the target audience and exactly whether or not movie reviews are reaching the audience. Super Screen also needs to consider how its movie choices have affected the separate movie reviewer and audience populations. If the studio has switched from making mega-blockbuster action movies to more nuanced dramas, the general public may be less willing to go see their movies even though movie critics prefer the dramas to the action movies.

Finally the studio must ask whether the percentage of positive reviews is really a relevant way to measure the potential impact of movie reviews. There are dozens of movie reviewers but when deciding whether to not to go to a movie, the general public will usually pick from among the 10 most popular movie reviews. These are the reviews that will impress the public if they are included in advertising. If the most popular movie reviewers disliked Super Screen movies that a larger number of small time film bloggers reviewed positively, Super Screen needs to think of a new advertising strategy.

In conclusion, there are many questions Super Screen needs to answer before using this advertising director's plan. They need to look carefully at actual numbers, both of viewership and of positive reviews. They also need to identify the relationship that their target audience has with movie reviewers and determine how their target audience feels about their movies. Finally they need to take a nuanced look at the movie reviews that they use in their advertising.

考官评论

This response clearly identifies aspects of the argument relevant to the assigned task and provides insightful, thoroughly developed analysis. Thus, it earns a score of 6. The response is clearly on task, examining the questions that would need to be answered in order to determine if the recommendation is

reason-able. In each case, the writer perceptively explores the nuances of the question, showing different ways in which the answers to those questions might have an impact on the recommendation. For example, the first body paragraph looks at the issue of overall movie attendance, exploring the possibility that Super Screen might actually be doing better than other production companies. If that is the case, perhaps Super Screen's advertising is already effective, and the proposed plan to increase advertising would not have the intended effect. Throughout the response, the analysis is detailed and cogent, and the organization of the response is logical both within paragraphs and between paragraphs. In addition, although there are a few misspelled words, the response demonstrates facility with language, conveying ideas fluently and precisely. Sentences like this one demonstrate the superior control of the conventions of standard written English seen throughout this response: "If this is the case and more people are going to see Super Screen Movies than the movies of any other production company, advertising about how fun it is to go to the movie theater may do more to boost Super Screen viewership than advertising promoting its own good reviews." Because of its fluent language and insightful analysis, this response earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

While the advertising director clearly aims at relitalizing his production company and ensuring that the public is well informed about the movies which are available, there are several basic flaws to his argument. There remain some questions that need answering before any steps can be taken with regard to advertising strategies for the Super Screen Movie Production Company.

First among these questions is this; were ticket sales of the entire movie industry down? This is an essential question because it helps to pinpoint the cause of the writer's problem. If the industry as a whole is undergoing poor revenues, then perhaps the issue is not Super Screen's advertising company but rather the country's economy. In times of economic strife, it is only natural that people would be less willing to spend money on luxuries such as movie tickets. If this is the case, it might better suit the production company to cut costs rather than refunneling them into a different part of the company.

Second, the advertising director should ask himself this; what medium do the majority of his most generous movie reviewers utilize? The writer states that movie reviews were generally positive, but where were these reviews located? On television, newspapers, or the Internet? It is possible that the medium used by the most positive reviewers of Super Screen's movies is one that is not utilized by most of the company's target audiences. If Super Screen produces many family films, but most of the good reviews are found in late night television shows, then there is a good chance that the reviews are not going to be seen by the target audience. If this is the case, then the company would be better off conducting research as to what medium is most likely to reach their audiences.

One last question would be this; what advertising is currently being used by the Super Screen company? If the company advertises using only one medium, such as in newspapers, perhaps the solution is not to double the amount of newspaper space but to branch out and try other forms of advertising. The writer fails to mention exactly how the company currently advertises their movies, and this absence detracts from his argument.

In conclusion, the advertising director would be better served by first answering these questions and evaluating the resulting answers before pouring millions of dollars into his solution. It is possible that an alternative solution exists, perhaps one that will not be as expensive nor as risky.

考官评论

This response earns a score of 5 because it presents generally perceptive analysis and maintains facility with language in spite of a few minor errors. The writer clearly identifies aspects of the argument relevant to the assigned task, looking at how the various points raised might impact the marketing director's recommendation. However, the development of each point is not as insightful as the development seen in the sample 6 (see, for example, the somewhat rudimentary paragraph about Super Screen's advertising media). In general, however, the development is perceptive, as in the exploration of a potential disconnect between the target audience and the media used by the reviewers, so the response rises above the adequate level. Language control in this response is also at the 5 level, as seen in the effective use of sentence variety and appropriate word choice. Take, for example, this sentence, which demonstrates effective control of subordination and complex syntax: "If Super Screen produces many family films, but most of the good reviews are found in late night television shows, then there is a good chance that the

reviews are not going to be seen by the target audience.” Because of its perceptive analysis and strong control of language, then, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

In order to decide whether or not the advertising director's recommendation is reasonable there are a lot more questions that need to be addressed. First of all it is important to look at the bigger picture. Fundamentally, has anything changed about Super Screen? Has new leadership come into the company? If so, how has that changed business practices?

Leadership changes or other changes within the company might have led Super Screen to choose to make different types of movies this year than it has in the past. It is important to determine whether or not different movie subjects/topics have influenced audiences. Many times there are discrepancies between how a reviewer rates a movie and how an audience rates a movie. It is important to determine whether or not the audiences are pleased with the products coming out of Super Screen, not just the movie reviewers.

Another question to ask is whether or not advertising has significantly changed over the past year. Has there been any less advertising this year than years before? If not, then again, the problem probably does not lie in advertising alone. If there have been some differences in the way movies were advertised, it would be important to look at some of those decisions and determine how they affected movie audiences. Perhaps the right audiences were not targeted for the right movies. If a childrens movie was released and all the advertising went into adult magazines, this would present an obvious problem.

In conclusion, it would not be a good idea to only up the advertising budget next year in an attempt to reach audiences. It is important to look at differences, if any, throughout the whole company and then determine the best course of action.

考官评论

This response does identify questions that need to be answered in order to determine if the recommendation is reasonable, and the development of each point of analysis is adequate. Take, for example, the discussion of how Super Screen might have started making different types of movies this year. The writer notes, "It is important to determine whether or not different movie subjects/topics have influenced audiences. Many times there are discrepancies between how a reviewer rates a movie and how an audience rates a movie." This discussion is certainly relevant, and it is developed enough to make the point that positive reviews might not lead to more viewers. But the response does not demonstrate the perceptive analysis or the thorough development required for a higher score. As with the analysis, language control in this response is adequate. There are some minor errors, but all the writer's points are presented with adequate clarity. Because of its adequate analysis and language control, this response earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

There are a battery of questions that should be asked when deciding whether or not the advertising director's recommendation is reasonable. One of the most prevalent being "How many people actually take into account movie reviews when they are deciding which movie to watch?" For, if no one reads movie reviews before making these decisions, then the proposed plan from the movie director may not guarantee anything.

The second question would be this: "who exactly is doing the movie reviews?" For instance, if there is but one or two reviewers who are doing such work, can we be sure that such a small sample would be representative of our target market?

The director's argument is not necessarily fallacious. However, there is certain evidence that would have to be put forward to consider his proposal further. First of all, we need to know how our target market takes movie reviews into account. And lastly, we need to know who, and how many people, are conducting the reviews. Only then, can we make a maximally informed decision regarding the reviews.

考官评论

This response earns a score of 3 because of the limited development of its critique. The points that the writer makes are certainly relevant, and there is some attempt made to analyze the impact on the recommendation of the questions the writer raises. However, the response provides little support for each point. For example, the discussion of "who exactly is doing the movie reviews" is supported only by the fairly generic notion that the sample size might be too small to be meaningful. This response uses repetition instead of developing its analysis, as seen in the final paragraph, which simply repeats the points made earlier in the response. Language control in this response is adequate, but it earns a score of 3 for limited development.

范文 5-questions 类型

Collectors prize the ancient life-size clay statues of human figures made on Kali Island but have long wondered how Kalinese artists were able to depict bodies with such realistic precision. Since archaeologists have recently discovered molds of human heads and hands on Kali, we can now conclude that the ancient Kalinese artists used molds of actual bodies, not sculpting tools and techniques, to create these statues. This discovery explains why Kalinese miniature statues were abstract and entirely different in style: molds could be used only for life-size sculptures. It also explains why few ancient Kalinese sculpting tools have been found. In light of this discovery, collectors predict that the life-size sculptures will decrease in value while the miniatures increase in value.

Write a response in which you discuss what **questions** would need to be answered in order to decide whether the prediction and the argument on which it is based are reasonable. Be sure to explain how the answers to these questions would help to evaluate the prediction.

6 分范文

The prediction that life size sculptures will decrease in value relative to more abstract miniatures rests upon dubious inferences within its supporting argument. These inferences invite questions whose answers will assist in evaluating the argument, its relationship to the market for Kalinese sculpture, and hence the prediction of relative price movements.

One such inference appears to suggest that if the body sculptures are made via molds as opposed to the miniatures being made free-form by hand, then collectors will cease to value the body sculptures because they represent works of diminished artistic skill. For this to be true, we must first agree with the conclusion that the discovery of hand and head molds in fact means that the body sculptures are made entirely by molds. To evaluate this claim, we would ask if perhaps the molds could have in fact been used in artistic studies, for guidance, and then the body sculptures afterwards made by hand in observation of the models. If this were known to be the case, we would expect no impact on collector demand, as the underlying skill level of the sculptures would stand unchanged. Alternatively, we would ask where the molds are for the rest of the bodies. Without molds of back muscles, feet, limbs, and so on, could we truly conclude the entire statue to be a copy rather than an original creation? And if indeed the head and hand molds did produce parts of the statues, could we be sure that sculptors' skilled hands did not in fact join these aspects together to create a unified whole, exhibiting an adroit artistry worthy of appreciation and valuation?

Furthermore, we also wonder why the miniatures, by contrast, are abstract in nature. Could they in fact have been produced by different sculptors, perhaps belonging to a discrete guild or to a different age? If so, such revelations would differentiate the two art forms making their relative valuation less easily anticipated. We thus note that the prediction that the value of the miniatures will increase due to new information about the body-sculptures appears to rest on an inference that the two art forms are analogous. If instead they are made by different artists, in different eras, or of different materials, we would hesitate to assume such a relationship, and ask why, if they do not share an origin, would any decrease in the value of one form lead to an inverse change in its correlate?

Finally, and in a similar vein, we would ask why the Kalinese body- sculptures are prized in the first place. Could it be that they are prized because of their physical beauty, or due to the unique materials employed, like pied clay? Pied clay is shot through with various elements and colors. If in fact these sculptures' high valuation follows not from the perceived sculpting skill of the artisan but from the attractiveness or distinctiveness of the human forms themselves, or the high value of the material (could they in fact be made of clay infused with gold?), then we could anticipate a much more modest devaluation, if any, due to revelations about the technique or materials involved in their creation. In fact, were they to be made of gold, amid current climates of international financial insecurity and imminent inflationary pressure, we might well conclude that the most relevant questions by which to assess the argument's prediction would hinge on the financial context. For example, inquiries about the degree of monetary expansion planned by the Federal Reserve for the next fiscal year and the solvency of the Spanish Central Bank, rather than some remotely- supported questioning of sculpting technique on a far-off island of a bygone era, might be more relevant.

考官评论

This outstanding response clearly addresses the specific task directions while presenting an insightful, cogent, and well-articulated examination of the argument. Throughout, the compelling analysis is supported by persuasive, fully developed, and nuanced discussion. For example, in questioning the logic of the argument regarding the relative value of the life-size statues vis-à-vis the miniatures—“Could [the miniatures] in fact have been produced by different sculptors, perhaps belonging to a discrete guild or to a different age?”—the writer concludes that the answers to the questions consistently undermine the argument’s prediction: “If so, such revelations would differentiate the two art forms making their relative valuation less easily anticipated.” Support is always thorough and compelling as in paragraph three when the writer asks, “If instead [the sculptures] are made by different artists, in different eras, or of different materials, we would hesitate to assume such [an analogous] relationship, and ask why, if they do not share an origin, would any decrease in the value of one form lead to an inverse change in its correlate?” Language is fluent and precise, exemplifying the superior facility typical of responses that receive a score of 6, for example, “adroit artistry,” “relative valuation less easily anticipated,” “current climates of international financial insecurity and imminent inflationary pressure.” Organization is both clear and skillful with ideas cohesively linked not only by more obvious transitions (“Furthermore,” “Finally”) but also through embedded transitions (“Alternatively,” “If so,” “In fact, were they to be made of gold ... we might well conclude ...”). Because of its compelling and insightful development and fluent and precise language, this response fits all of the requirements for a 6.

5 分范文

For this situation, the word “beauty” in the common saying “beauty is in the eye of the beholder” could be replaced with “value.” Who the potential buyer is of an ancient Kalinese sculpture will determine the value of the piece. To state that life-size statues will be worth less due to the way in which they were made is a presumptuous statement. The price of a piece of art has always depended on how much the buyer is willing to spend. More work must also be done to confirm the use of molds in ancient times.

First, the issue of molds must be addressed. Just because the ancient Kalinese artists used molds, does that make their art less valuable? Since we are not given a time period, it is possible that the concept of molds, their use, and how to make them had not been developed yet. If this is the case, then one could argue that the life-size statues from molds are more valuable than the ones made using sculpting tools. Molds could have been invented and implemented by Kalinese artists first. A creation using a tool that had never been seen before would be very valuable indeed.

Second, how can we be sure that the life-size sculptures will decrease in value? They are still ancient art and will be valued by modern society. While some experts in the field of ancient art may look down upon the use of molds, are they the main market? Some curators may have much knowledge in a field of study, but that does not mean they have the financial ability to purchase pieces. A wealthy individual may not have a great affinity for art, but they may desire to fill their home with seemingly important and expensive things. In that case, one would think that a larger piece would be more valuable to such a buyer than a smaller piece. The larger piece will declare its importance, while the smaller piece’s value would most likely only be known by an art enthusiast. Another large market for ancient art would have to be museums. Museums are storehouses of all kinds of history and work to educate the public. Such an institution would be very unlikely to frown upon the life-size work just because it was made from a mold; a museum would most likely desire to obtain both life-size and miniature sculptures for its exhibit of ancient Kalinese art. Third, while the statement says they found molds, they cannot definitively say that molds were used to make all or even any life-size statues. It merely says molds have been found. Further research could provide a use for the molds that has not been seen before. If this was the case, life-size statues may have been previously sold for less their worth.

This statement could have been further strengthened by addressing the above issues as well as obtaining a poll from the target market as well as the everyday individual. Such a poll would yield a better idea of whether or not the mold-formed, life-size sculptures or sculpted miniatures would have more value in the market at the present time.

In summation, at present there are still too many unknown variables to be able to say with conviction which work of art would be more valuable. The use of molds, the effect that molds have upon the value of art, and the reaction of the market are all serious considerations that must be determined before conclusions can be drawn. What can be said is that regardless of the technique used, ancient Kalinese art has great value to many.

考官评论

This strong response addresses the specific task directions and takes a generally thoughtful and well-developed approach to its examination of the argument, including, among others, such elements as

the time period when the molds were developed and used, and how the relative value of the two types of figures is determined. While development is strong, overall it does not rise to the level of insightfulness and cogency found in responses that earn a 6. In the third paragraph, for instance, the response depends, at times, on the writer's own assumptions rather than on logical analysis: "They are still ancient art and will be valued by modern society," and "Such an institution [as a museum] would be very unlikely to frown upon the life-size work just because it was made from a mold." Also, while reasons are logically sound and examples well chosen, they are neither compelling nor utterly persuasive. In meeting requirements for a score of 5, the response demonstrates some facility with language though it does not convey meaning skillfully: "Since we are not given a time period, it is possible that the concept of molds, their use, and how to make them had not been developed yet"; and, "Third, while the statement says they found molds, they cannot definitively say that molds were used to make all or even any life-size statues." Overall then, the response demonstrates strong, not outstanding, writing skills. The response is generally thoughtful with ideas connected by clear transitions ("First," "Second," "Third," "In summation"), and exhibits appropriate vocabulary and sentence variety. It clearly earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

Kalinese art holds value to the collectors who recognize the significance of the piece. The article states that the human sculptures are a result of molding techniques and not the actual skill of the Kali. Does that mean that they're any less valuable? How do they make their determination? Is it certain the molded sculptures didn't carry any significance to their makers? It makes me wonder if the molded statues were cast from living or deceased individuals, or if the dead body is still contained within the clay. Would it make a difference in the value of the art? I think so. In the archeological community, there is a great deal of curiosity about ancient civilizations and their way of life. By studying those molded sculptures, scientists may be able to unlock a hidden clue about these ancient people, and potential value may increase.

The rarity of the art piece would also determine its value. Large items are more susceptible to damage than small ones, and if the number of "life-size sculptures" were to diminish, the price would probably increase. One could make a similar argument about the mini sculptures, as they could be misplaced over time. How small are the miniature pieces? Is there any more detail in their form than the human statues that would make them worth more? If the intricate details are found on both types of art, the prediction about their true value may not be as simple.

What makes art valuable? Maybe it is its condition, how much money was spent on it, or maybe it is a sentimental piece passed down through generations. The value of art holds true to the ones who care enough to obtain it. As long as there are collectors who are willing to bid at auctions, the art will hold its value. As the interest goes down, maybe the value will too. The antique or collectors market can be precarious at times, and though emphasis on certain items may be a little swayed, only time will determine what happens to the value of the Kalinese art.

考官评论

This adequate response presents a relevant examination of the argument with acceptable clarity and addresses the specific task directions. The writer identifies some questions central to evaluating the argument and its prediction, for example, "The article states that the human sculptures are a result of molding techniques and not the actual skill of the Kali. Does that mean that they're any less valuable? How do they make their determination? Is it certain the molded sculptures didn't carry any significance to their makers?" But while a response earning a score of 5 or 6 might have asked the same questions and thus identified the same weaknesses in the argument, this response does not develop its questions in a compelling or insightful way. For example, regarding the question of whether the molds carried "any significance to their makers," the writer says, "By studying those molded sculptures, scientists may be able to unlock a hidden clue about these ancient people, and potential value may increase." A more thoughtful response would engage in further discussion of what "a hidden clue" might reveal and how it might correspond to the sculptures' potentially increased value. In addition, speculation on whether the molds still contain bodies is extraneous since only molds of "human heads and hands" have been found. The writer does address the relative value of both the life-size sculptures and the miniatures, but, again, examination of these values remains only adequate. Language conveys meaning with acceptable clarity; sentence structure lacks variety. Thus, demonstrating adequacy in all aspects of the task, this response

earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

The basic flaw in the argument is that something that is made from a mold is of less value. The use of molds in sculpture was previously frowned upon in European Modernism. The public and critics alike feel that the artist must have a mastery of hand and tool and each piece must be original. Therefore, realistic sculpting is the prize of all sculptors.

This degradation of life-casting is a particularly western approach to sculpture. One of the most famous examples of Chinese ceramics, is the life-size clay army in the tomb of the Qin dynasty emperor (I cannot remember the correct spelling of his name). These clay figures are not astounding for their realistic interpretation of the human figure, but of the sheer quantity. They were cast from life molds. There were several different molds for each part of the body, and the sculptors would simply piece together arms and legs etc. to make different figures.

Perhaps the purpose of the Kalinese life-size figures, is not the celebration of one master sculptor, but the number of figures created. There is obviously a preexisting market for the larger sculptures, so there must have been many that were created. Perhaps the Kalinese people appreciated the ease of production so they could be available for everybody. They people obviously did not care for each object to be individually crafted. They would put their energy into something they cared for, which is the creation of large, cast figures.

The mis-use of the word ‘abstract’ is astounding. The minatures are different from what we know the human body to look like, but who can argue with the interpretation of the Kalinese artists. Their perception of the figure cannot be put into Western terms.

Also, the claim of “molds could be used only for life-sized sculptures” does not have any evidence to support it. The use of molds can be used at any scale.

Despite the flaws in the authors logic, the prediction of the value shift may be true, simply due to the western liking of ‘original’ art. This article claims, lacking any evidence, that the smaller objects are not made from molds and therefore inherently more valuable. This could then cause the price to shift.

考官评论

Although this limited response identifies some important features of the argument and presents some relevant examination of the argument, it is limited in addressing the specific task directions and its analysis generally deals with tangential matters. Much of the analysis is based on the writer’s own assumptions, for example that “[t]here is obviously a pre-existing market for the larger sculptures, so there must have been many that were created”; and the “people obviously did not care for each object to be individually crafted. They would put their energy into something they cared for, which is the creation of large, cast figures.” The fourth paragraph does approach relevant analysis in implying that the abstract nature of the miniature sculptures should not be questioned or dismissed, and the fifth paragraph likewise implies relevant analysis. But the analysis in both of these paragraphs is poorly reasoned, development is clearly limited, and the support offered is of little relevance to the overall task. In addition, the writer concludes by agreeing with a major logical flaw in the argument, that “the prediction of the value shift may be true,” but bases this conclusion not on logical analysis but on another unsupported assumption, that the change in value is “due to the western liking of ‘original’ art.” Overall, control of language and sentence structure is

adequate although there are some minor errors. But because the examination of the argument does not ,rise to an adequate level, this response earns a score of 3.

范文 6—assumptions 类型

In surveys Mason City residents rank water sports (swimming, boating and fishing) among their favorite recreational activities. The Mason River flowing through the city is rarely used for these pursuits, however, and the city park department devotes little of its budget to maintaining riverside recreational facilities. For years there have been complaints from residents about the quality of the river's water and the river's smell. In response, the state has recently announced plans to clean up Mason River. Use of the river for water sports is therefore sure to increase. The city government should for that reason devote more money in this year's budget to riverside recreational facilities.

Write a response in which you examine the stated and/or unstated **assumptions** of the argument. Be sure to explain how the argument depends on the assumptions and what the implications are if these assumptions prove unwarranted.

6 分范文

While it may be true that the Mason City government ought to devote more money to riverside recreational facilities, this author's argument does not make a cogent case for increased resources based on river use. It is easy to understand why city residents would want a cleaner river, but this argument is rife with holes and assumptions, and thus, not strong enough to lead to increased funding.

Citing surveys of city residents, the author reports city resident's love of water sports. It is not clear, however, the scope and validity of that survey. For example, the survey could have asked residents if they prefer using the river for water sports or would like to see a hydroelectric dam built, which may have swayed residents toward river sports. The sample may not have been representative of city residents, asking only those residents who live upon the river. The survey may have been 10 pages long, with 2 questions dedicated to river sports. We just do not know. Unless the survey is fully representative, valid, and reliable, it can not be used to effectively back the author's argument.

Additionally, the author implies that residents do not use the river for swimming, boating, and fishing, despite their professed interest, because the water is polluted and smelly. While a polluted, smelly river would likely cut down on river sports, a concrete connection between the resident's lack of river use and the river's current state is not effectively made. Though there have been complaints, we do not know if there have been numerous complaints from a wide range of people, or perhaps from one or two individuals who made numerous complaints. To strengthen his/her argument, the author would benefit from implementing a normed survey asking a wide range of residents why they do not currently use the river.

Building upon the implication that residents do not use the river due to the quality of the river's water and the smell, the author suggests that a river clean up will result in increased river usage. If the river's water quality and smell result from problems which can be cleaned, this may be true. For example, if the decreased water quality and aroma is caused by pollution by factories along the river, this conceivably could be remedied. But if the quality and aroma results from the natural mineral deposits in the water or surrounding rock, this may not be true. There are some bodies of water which emit a strong smell of sulphur due to the geography of the area. This is not something likely to be affected by a clean-up. Consequently, a river clean up may have no impact upon river usage. Regardless of whether the river's quality is able to be improved or not, the author does not effectively show a connection between water quality and river usage.

A clean, beautiful, safe river often adds to a city's property values, leads to increased tourism and revenue from those who come to take advantage of the river, and a better overall quality of life for residents. For these reasons, city government may decide to invest in improving riverside recreational facilities. However, this author's argument is not likely significantly persuade the city government to allocate increased funding.

考官评论

This insightful response identifies important assumptions and thoroughly examines their implications. The proposal to spend more on riverside recreational facilities rests on several questionable assumptions, namely:

- that the survey provides a reliable basis for budget planning

- that the river's pollution and odor are the only reasons for its limited recreational use
- that efforts to clean the water and remove the odor will be successful

By showing that each assumption is highly suspect, this essay demonstrates the weakness of the entire argument. For example, paragraph 2 points out that the survey might not have used a representative sample, might have offered limited choices, and might have contained very few questions on water sports.

Paragraph 3 examines the tenuous connection between complaints and limited use of the river for recreation. Complaints about water quality and odor may be coming from only a few people and, even if such complaints are numerous, other completely different factors may be much more significant in reducing river usage. Finally, paragraph 4 explains that certain geologic features may prevent effective river clean-up. Details such as these provide compelling support.

In addition, careful organization ensures that each new point builds upon the previous ones. For example, note the clear transitions at the beginning of paragraphs 3 and 4, as well as the logical sequence of sentences within paragraphs (specifically paragraph 4).

Although this essay does contain minor errors, it still conveys ideas fluently. Note the effective word choices (e.g., “rife with . . . assumptions” and “may have swayed residents”). In addition, sentences are not merely varied; they also display skillful embedding of subordinate elements. For example, note the sustained parallelism in the first sentence of the concluding paragraph.

Since this response offers cogent examination of the argument and conveys meaning skillfully, it earns a score of 6.

5 分范文

The author of this proposal to increase the budget for Mason City riverside recreational facilities offers an interesting argument but to move forward on the proposal would definitely require more information and thought. While the correlations stated are logical and probable, there may be hidden factors that prevent the City from diverting resources to this project.

For example, consider the survey rankings among Mason City residents. The thought is that such high regard for water sports will translate into usage. But, survey responses can hardly be used as indicators of actual behavior. Many surveys conducted after the winter holidays reveal people who list exercise and weight loss as a top priority. Yet every profession does not equal a new gym membership. Even the wording of the survey results remain ambiguous and vague. While water sports may be among the residents' favorite activities, this allows for many other favorites. What remains unknown is the priorities of the general public. Do they favor these water sports above a softball field or soccer field? Are they willing to sacrifice the municipal golf course for better riverside facilities? Indeed the survey hardly provides enough information to discern future use of improved facilities.

Closely linked to the surveys is the bold assumption that a cleaner river will result in increased usage. While it is not illogical to expect some increase, at what level will people begin to use the river? The answer to this question requires a survey to find out the reasons our residents use or do not use the river. Is river water quality the primary limiting factor to usage or the lack of docks and piers? Are people more interested in water sports than the recreational activities that they are already engaged in? These questions will help the city government forecast how much river usage will increase and to assign a proportional increase to the budget.

Likewise, the author is optimistic regarding the state promise to clean the river. We need to hear the source of the voices and consider any ulterior motives. Is this a campaign year and the plans a campaign promise from the state representative? What is the timeline for the clean-up effort? Will the state fully fund this project? We can imagine the misuse of funds in renovating the riverside facilities only to watch the new buildings fall into dilapidation while the state drags the river clean-up.

Last, the author does not consider where these additional funds will be diverted from. The current budget situation must be assessed to determine if this increase can be afforded. In a sense, the City may not be willing to draw money away from other key projects from road improvements to schools and education. The author naively assumes that the money can simply appear without forethought on where it will come from.

Examining all the various angles and factors involved with improving riverside recreational facilities, the argument does not justify increasing the budget. While the proposal does highlight a possibility, more information is required to warrant any action.

考官评论

Each paragraph in the body of this perceptive essay identifies and examines an unstated assumption that is crucial to the argument. The major assumptions discussed are:

- that a survey can accurately predict behavior
- that cleaning the river will, in itself, increase recreational usage

- that state plans to clean the river will actually be realized
- that Mason City can afford to spend more on riverside recreational facilities

Support within each paragraph is both thoughtful and thorough. For example, paragraph 2 points out vagueness in the wording of the survey: Even if water sports rank among the favorite recreational activities of Mason City residents, other sports may still be much more popular. Thus, if the first assumption proves unwarranted, the argument to fund riverside facilities—rather than soccer fields or golf courses—becomes much weaker. Paragraph 4 considers several reasons why river clean-up plans may not be successful (the plans may be nothing more than campaign promises or funding may not be adequate). Thus, the weakness of the third assumption undermines the argument that river recreation will increase and riverside improvements will be needed at all.

Instead of dismissing each assumption in isolation, this response places them in a logical order and considers their connections. Note the appropriate transitions between and within paragraphs, clarifying the links among the assumptions (e.g., “Closely linked to the surveys ...” or “The answer to this question requires ...”).

Along with strong development, this response also displays facility with language. Minor errors in punctuation are present, but word choices are apt and sentences suitably varied in pattern and length. The response uses a number of rhetorical questions, but the implied answers are always clear enough to support the points being made.

Thus, the response satisfies all requirements for a score of 5, but its development is not thorough or compelling enough for a 6.

4 分范文

The problem with the argument is the assumption that if the Mason River were cleaned up, that people would use it for water sports and recreation. This is not necessarily true, as people may rank water sports among their favorite recreational activities, but that does not mean that those same people have the financial ability, time or equipment to pursue those interests.

However, even if the writer of the argument is correct in assuming that the Mason River will be used more by the city's residents, the argument does not say why the recreational facilities need more money. If recreational facilities already exist along the Mason River, why should the city allot more money to fund them? If the recreational facilities already in existence will be used more in the coming years, then they will be making more money for themselves, eliminating the need for the city government to devote more money to them.

According to the argument, the reason people are not using the Mason River for water sports is because of the smell and the quality of water, not because the recreational facilities are unacceptable.

If the city government allotted more money to the recreational facilities, then the budget is being cut from some other important city project. Also, if the assumptions proved unwarranted, and more people did not use the river for recreation, then much money has been wasted, not only the money for the recreational facilities, but also the money that was used to clean up the river to attract more people in the first place.

考官评论

This competent response identifies some important unstated assumptions:

- that cleaning up the Mason River will lead to increased recreational use
- that existing facilities along the river need more funding

Paragraph 1 offers reasons why the first assumption is questionable (e.g., residents may not have the necessary time or money for water sports). Similarly, paragraphs 2 and 3 explain that riverside recreational facilities may already be adequate and may, in fact, produce additional income if usage increases. Thus, the response is adequately developed and satisfactorily organized to show how the argument depends on questionable assumptions.

However, this essay does not rise to a score of 5 because it fails to consider several other unstated assumptions (e.g., that the survey is reliable or that the efforts to clean the river will be successful). Further-more, the final paragraph makes some extraneous, unsupported assertions of its own. Mason City may actually have a budget surplus so that cuts to other projects will not be necessary, and cleaning the river may provide other real benefits even if it is not used more for water sports.

This response is generally free of errors in grammar and usage and displays sufficient control of language to support a score of 4.

3 分范文

Surveys are created to speak for the people; however, surveys do not always speak for the whole community. A survey completed by Mason City residents concluded that the residents enjoy water sports as a form of recreation. If that is so evident, why has the river not been used? The blame can not be solely placed on the city park department. The city park department can only do as much as they observe. The real issue is not the residents use of the river, but their desire for a more pleasant smell and a more pleasant sight. If the city government cleans the river, it might take years for the smell to go away. If the budget is changed to accommodate the clean up of the Mason River, other problems will arise. The residents will then begin to complain about other issues in their city that will be ignored because of the great emphasis being placed on Mason River. If more money is taken out of the budget to clean the river an assumption can be made. This assumption is that the budget for another part of city maintenance or building will be tapped into to. In addition, to the budget being used to clean up Mason River, it will also be allocated in increasing riverside recreational facilities. The government is trying to appease its residents, and one can warrant that the role of the government is to please the people. There are many assumptions being made; however, the government can not make the assumption that people want the river to be cleaned so that they can use it for recreational water activities. The government has to realize the long term effects that their decision will have on the monetary value of their budget.

考官评论

Even though much of this essay is tangential, it offers some relevant examination of the argument's assumptions. The early sentences mention a questionable assumption (that the survey results are reliable) but do not explain how the survey might have been flawed. Then the response drifts to irrelevant matters—a defense of the city park department, a prediction of budget problems and the problem of pleasing city residents.

Some statements even introduce unwarranted assumptions that are not part of the original argument (e.g., “The residents will then begin to complain about other issues” and “This assumption is that the budget for another part of city maintenance or building will be tapped into”). Near the end, the response does correctly note that city government should not assume that residents want to use the river for recreation. Hence, the proposal to increase funding for riverside recreational facilities may not be justified.

In summary, the language in this response is reasonably clear, but its examination of unstated assumptions remains limited and therefore the essay earns a score of 3.

范文 7—assumptions 类型

The following appeared in a health magazine published in Corpora.

“Medical experts say that only one-quarter of Corpora’s citizens meet the current standards for adequate physical fitness, even though twenty years ago, one-half of all of Corpora’s citizens met the standards as then defined. But these experts are mistaken when they suggest that spending too much time using computers has caused a decline in fitness. Since overall fitness levels are highest in regions of Corpora where levels of computer ownership are also highest, it is clear that using computers has not made citizens less physically fit. Instead, as shown by this year’s unusually low expenditures on fitness-related products and services, the recent decline in the economy is most likely the cause, and fitness levels will improve when the economy does”

Write a response in which you examine the stated and/or unstated **assumptions** of the argument. Be sure to explain how the argument depends on these assumptions and what the implications are for the argument if the assumptions prove unwarranted.

6 分范文

The magazine article concerns itself with a common worry in this day and age: health. It makes an intriguing connection, that of fitness and economic status, but engages it too many clear logical fallacies and fails to present enough factual evidence to be a truly compelling argument.

The article itself is discussing the fitness level of Corpora's citizens, saying that half as many citizens meet the health standards today as did twenty years ago; standing alone, it is persuasive evidence that helps the article's argument. It is the article's own words that undercuts its efficacy. By clarifying that there are "current standards" and "standards as then defined," the writer questions his or her own connection without acknowledging the possible repercussions of that change, thereby assuming that the standards are similar enough for the difference to remain relevant. If that assumption is incorrect, that is, if the standards twenty years ago are drastically different than those today, it is possible that there has been no change in the citizens' fitness at all. It could just be that fitness standards have become more exacting and the citizens are failing to measure up the way they did before, under the more accepting fitness standards. If this were true, the article's entire purpose would be undermined. There would be no change in fitness levels at all, and therefore no cause for concern. This is a major flaw in the argument and should be at least acknowledged by the author, perhaps improved upon by defining the fitness standards, in order to improve the argument as a whole.

The author of this article also makes a tragic assumption by supposing a correlation between high rates of computer ownership and computer usage. The author argues that areas with high computer ownership are also highly fit, and therefore computer usage cannot result in lower fitness. That statement relies on the assumption that a home has multiple computers because the people in that home are using the computer. It is entirely possible that those homes are the wealthiest homes and own multiple computers, but no one in the home uses the computer. Similarly, someone in a poor neighborhood could not own a computer at all but still use a computer for a great portion of their day at a job and/or library. High ownership rates do not necessarily correlate to usage, and therefore the author cannot logically argue that the relationship between ownership and fitness automatically precludes a correlation between usage and fitness.

The above assumption has even deeper implications. As discussed, the homes with high ownership rates could very well, and even most likely, be the wealthiest homes in Corpora; therefore, the homes with the lowest rates could be the most poverty-stricken. Consequently, the high fitness levels in the high ownership areas may have nothing to do with their computer usage, for which we have no data, or their computer ownership, which we have no proof they own, but everything to do with their wealth and subsequent access to private trainers and gyms. If this were true, it could help strengthen the conclusion of the article's original argument by taking it on a slightly different, albeit still economy-concerned, course. It would nonetheless render the entire article's actual argument false and therefore pointless.

As evidenced, the article engages in three major assumptions, both stated and understated, which do a great deal of work in the author's argument as a whole. That is, if the assumptions prove true. The reasoning relies on data that isn't provided and correlations that may not necessarily exist. For that reason, the article fails to successfully defend its conclusion. If just one of these assumptions were to prove wrong, the entire point of the article would be thrown into question, and it is entirely possible that all three assumptions could be wrong. The author would have to get a great deal more data and add lengthy explanations of the standards upon which the article relies before the article could have any hope of

standing successfully on its own.

考官评论

This outstanding response clearly addresses the specific task directions and presents a cogent, insightful analysis by specifically detailing the erroneous assumptions of the argument and what the implications of those assumptions are on the argument. For example, the writer points out that the argument's author accepts the different health standards "without acknowledging the possible repercussions of that change [over time], thereby assuming that the standards are similar enough for the difference to remain relevant. If that assumption is incorrect, that is, if the standards twenty years ago are drastically different than those today, it is possible that there has been no change in the citizens' fitness at all. ... If this were true, the article's entire purpose would be undermined." Similarly, the writer examines the argument's other points and concludes "If just one of these assumptions were to prove wrong, the entire point of the article would be thrown into question, and it is entirely possible that all three assumptions could be wrong." Throughout the response, the writer exhibits superior facility and fluency, as this example attests: "High ownership rates do not necessarily correlate to usage, and therefore the author cannot logically argue that the relationship between ownership and fitness automatically precludes a correlation between usage and fitness." The response does contain a few typos and minor errors, but these do not detract from its overall fluency, precise diction, and varied syntax. Because of its compelling and insightful development and fluent and precise language, this response fits all of the bullet points for a score of 6.

5 分范文

The study in which fitness levels of Corpora's citizens were examined states that the decline in physical fitness can be attributed to the economic downturn. It states that since spending on fitness-related products and services has declined, the most likely reason is the decline in the economy and that spending too much time using computers is not a factor in poor physical fitness. The conclusion drawn in this study needs to be reexamined due to flaws in its assumptions.

First, the study compares current rates of physical fitness with those that were measured twenty years ago. The study explicitly states that the "only one-quarter of Corpora's citizens meet the current standards for adequate physical fitness, even though twenty years ago, one-half of all of Corpora's citizens met the standards as then defined." Current standards for adequate physical fitness may have changed dramatically from the standards that were in place twenty years ago. The study does not state whether or not these standards are comparable. In addition, there is no information about how the previous study was conducted. The study conducted twenty years ago may not have been as rigorous as the current study. Results from the study twenty years ago may not be generalized to the whole population if its sample size was too small or if its methodology was flawed. Therefore, the article needs to include more criteria from the current study and from the previous study in order for readers to understand whether or not the findings from each can be compared.

Second, the high physical fitness levels in regions of Corpora where computer ownership is the highest may be due to other factors. Citizens in this region of Corpora may lead different lifestyles than citizens in other regions of Corpora. A healthy and balanced diet may be important components of everyday life in the region with high computer ownership. Also, income levels is an important factor in physical fitness. Residents of the region of Corpora with high computer ownership may have higher annual incomes than residents of other regions and may be able to afford healthier foods and health services, such as personal trainers. High physical fitness in this area can also be due to the geography and layout of the region. Perhaps there are more available parks where people can exercise. Authors of this study need to account for other factors that may explain why computer ownership is high in areas of higher physical activity.

Third, the study states that low expenditures on fitness products and services can be attributed to the decline in the economy and once the economy is no longer in a decline, expenditures will increase. This implies that expenditures on fitness-related products will increase once the economy improves but this may not necessarily happen. Even if the economy does improve, people may find other outlets in which to spend their money. In addition, this study assumes that in order for physical fitness to be high, people need to spend money on fitness-related products and services. People can attain physical fitness without spending money on products and services. For example, running outdoors is a physical activity that does not require people to spend money. Thus, if fitness levels do not improve once the economy improves, then the conclusion of the study would be regarded as false.

The article in a health magazine published in Corpora summarizes findings from a study and offers explanations for its findings. The conclusion drawn in the study cannot be regarded as fact until the stated assumptions are addressed.

考官评论

In addressing the specific task directions, this strong response presents a generally thoughtful and well-developed analysis of the argument. It identifies key flaws in the argument and examines them in a generally perceptive way. Note, for example, the range of flaws analyzed in each body paragraph. First, the assumptions are identified, then analyzed; the analysis is next followed by a conclusion such as the need for accounting “for other factors that may explain” assumptions about the effects of computer ownership on health and fitness, or why “if fitness levels do not improve once the economy improves, then the conclusion of the study would be regarded as false.” However, while this analysis is certainly strong, it never rises to the cogent level of a 6 as can be seen in this example: “Current standards for adequate physical fitness may have changed dramatically from the standards that were in place twenty years ago. The study does not state whether or not these standards are comparable. In addition, there is no information about how the previous study was conducted.” This is neither compelling nor skillfully presented. Ideas are clearly and logically organized and clear transitions are employed both in introducing paragraphs and in connecting ideas within paragraphs. In addition, the response conveys ideas clearly and well using appropriate vocabulary and sentence variety: “Results from the study twenty years ago may not be generalized to the whole population if its sample size was too small or if its methodology was flawed. Therefore, the article needs to include more criteria from the current study and from the previous study in order for readers to understand whether or not the findings from each can be compared.” In terms of writing skill and analysis, then, this response earns a score of 5.

4 分范文

The article suggests that the lagging economy of the region is to blame more so than increased computer use for the decline of physical fitness for the population of Corpora. The article references that the levels of physical fitness is significantly less than it was twenty years ago, and computer use has drastically increased in that timespan. Yet it discounts computer use as a prime cause for the problem in stating that in areas of high computer use, physical fitness rates are also highest in the region. Then the article goes on to make a broad and unfounded claim that due to recent declines in physical fitness products, the poor economy of the region is most likely to blame. While it is true a lagging economy will tighten personal spending, there are many ways to stay fit. One would expect to see a reduction in physical fitness amounts during times of economic turmoil, but the drastic numbers mentioned in the article seem to indicate other factors are also responsible.

The problem here is that the article fails to take into account these other factors. It doesn't even address them. For instance, what other health issues have arisen in recent years? What about other forms of time consuming entertainment? Did television watching also rise considerably in recent years? What trends can be traced to a reduced emphasis on physical fitness for the population? There are many factors that can affect how much people exercise. Although the economy might very well be a factor in declining physical fitness rates, is it the prime factor? The article should also take into account the neighboring areas and examine what effects the lagging economy has on measurable levels of physical activity. Did the same levels of physical fitness declines occur elsewhere in the region?

There is also another consideration to be made here. The article concludes that as the economy rebounds, fitness levels are most likely going to increase as well. Since the article fails to establish conclusively the economy is the prime culprit, there is no guarantee that fitness levels will rise. It also does not take into account the change in attitudes that might result toward exercise in the interim. In short, people can become lazy, and after all, there are many ways to stay fit other than purchasing equipment and utilizing gyms.

Although the article may be correct in its conclusions, there is no way to know that in the scope of given information. Most likely as the economy rebounds, levels will rise, but not to the levels expected. In conclusion, there are many factors left unanswered here.

考官评论

This adequate response identifies some important features of the argument and presents a competent examination of it in accordance with the specific task directions. Following a rather lengthy summation of the argument, the writer approaches the task by asking relevant questions, but the writer does not answer some questions or develop answers to other questions beyond an adequate level. For example, in the second paragraph, the writer asks, "For instance, what other health issues have arisen in recent years? What about other forms of time consuming entertainment? Did television watching also rise considerably in recent years? ... Although the economy might very well be a factor in declining physical fitness rates, is it the prime factor? ... Did the same levels of physical fitness declines occur elsewhere in the region?" In contrast to this, a 5- or 6-level response would delve into the implications these questions raise, such as what specific other health issue the writer is alluding to, what the implications are of any other factors

which affect levels of fitness, and why examining regions other than Corpora would be relevant and illuminating. Exploring implications such as these would result in the kind of thoroughness and thoughtfulness characteristic of responses that are better than merely competent. In addition, support for the analysis is uneven although, overall, development is adequate. Some transitions are present and ideas are conveyed with acceptable clarity. Because of its adequate control of language and syntax and its competent analysis, the response earns a score of 4.

3 分范文

Since the level of fitness has gone down and computer use has gone up, it is not sure that there is a causal relationship. The assumption that computer usage effects a Corpora citizens level of fitness is somewhat valid, however there could be other factors. Since the level of spenditure on fitness-related products has gone down, maybe the standard of living went down also or the price of fitness-related products went up. Since there can be many other factors which cause this decline researchers must examine them.

The level of fitness in Corpora could have went down do to th change in the standard of living. Yes, computer use his increased and people are stitting at the computer more instead of doing other things. Nevertheless, one can not be sure that these other things are fitness related. People could be spending more time in the workforce or spending more to in eductional institutions. Over time people have become more sedintary, but computers can not totally explain this decline in fitness levels.

The envirnoment may be to blame also. May be in Corpora there are not as many recreational areas for fitness activities. The price of joining a gym has increased or the amount of fitness centers in Corpora are deceasing. Poeple may want to be fit but since things are changing they are not able to, unlike before. Technology has increased across the world and if this is a causual relationship in Corpora, there should be a global effect. The assumption that computer use effects fitness level is somewhat valid. But, can not be totally to blame to the decrease in fitness in Corpora.

考官评论

Although this response examines the argument according to the specific task directions, it is limited in development and in conveying ideas with acceptable clarity. In particular, the response contains occasional major errors and frequent minor errors that can interfere with meaning. A basic error in verb form (“could have went down”), errors in sentence structure (a comma splice and a sentence fragment), errors in usage (“it is not sure”), and problems with wording (“or spending more to in eductional institutions”) among others combine to affect clarity and sometimes meaning. In addition to the problems with language and sentence control, the response demonstrates limited development by not identifying and examining most of the aspects of the argument and by accepting some of the argument’ s reasoning: “The assumption that computer use effects fitness level is somewhat valid.” Relevant analysis is undermined by poor reasoning and the absence of explanatory connections between ideas: “The envirnoment may be to blame also. May be in Corpora there are not as many recreational areas for fitness activities. The price of joining a gym has increased or the amount of fitness centers in Corpora are deceasing.” Because of its limited development, limited examination of the argument, and problems with language control that affect clarity, this response earns a score of 3.



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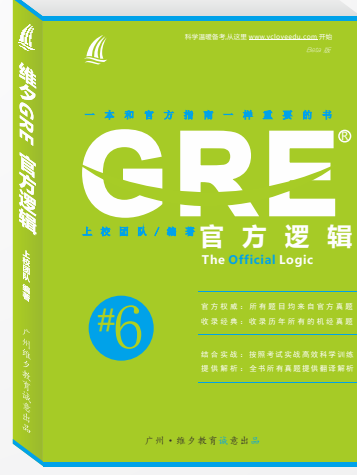
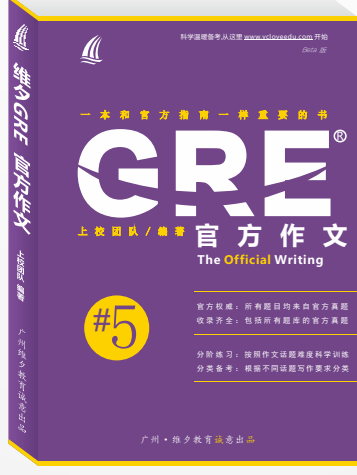
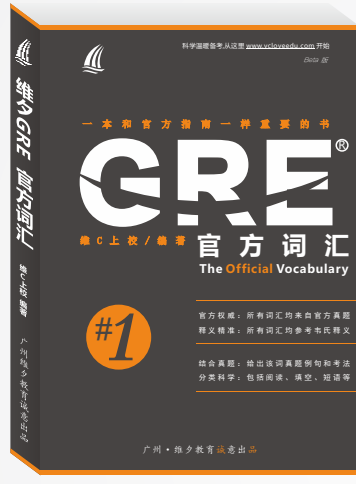
1. Richard M. Russell said 52 percent of the nation's growth since the Second World War had (I)_____ invention. He said, (ii)_____ research, the government's greatest role in assuring continuing innovation is promoting a strong, modern patent office. "Unless we can (iii)_____ original ideas, we will not have invention," Mr. Russell said. Speculating on the state of innovation over the next century, several inventors agreed that the future lay in giving children the tools to think creatively and the motivation to invent.

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A : been at the expense of	D : in addition to restricting	G : evaluate
B : no bearing on	E : aside from supporting	H : protect
C : come through	F : far from exaggerating	I : disseminate

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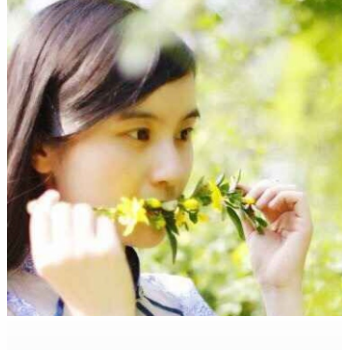
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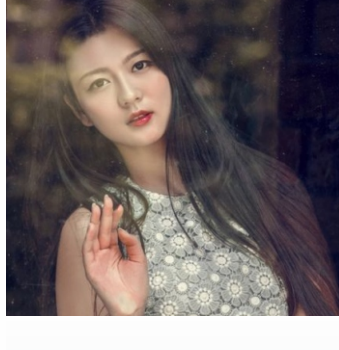
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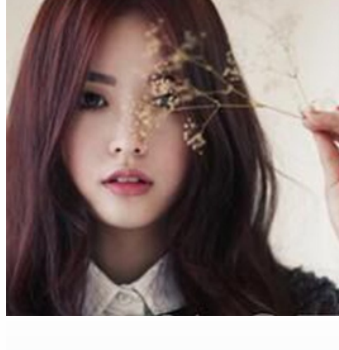
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Christina
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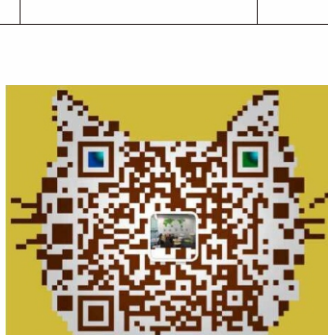


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GRE培训课程	普通班	320冲刺班	325保分班	330保分班
上课时间	20天左右	30天左右	从报名上课到考试结束	从报名上课到考试结束
授课师资	名师	顶级名师	顶级名师	顶级名师+内部资料
配套资料	部分真题	所有15、16年绝密真题	所有15、16年绝密真题	所有15、16年绝密真题
讲解的题目	部分真题	部分真题	全部真题	全部真题+所有15、16年绝密真题
适合考生	短期冲刺	短期冲刺	基础到冲刺	保分330或以上
详细复习规划	有	有	有	超级详细
考试不到保分分数, 后期上课, 是否需要再交费	需要	需要	不需要	不需要
费用	1980	2980	3980	4980
智能GRE网站	✓	✓	✓	✓
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课后答疑	✗	✓	✓	✓
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是否提供视频回放	✗	提供部分	✓	✓
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修改作文	✗	✗	✗	✓
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课程咨询助教 : vcerick

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