



THE INDIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL

Grade: IX

FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH

Worksheet 6

Dt : 27.03.20

ARTICLE WRITING

Day:Friday

ARTICLE WRITING NOTES-

An article

- is a piece of writing usually intended for publication in a newspaper, magazine or journal
- is written for a wide audience, so it is essential to attract and retain the readers' attention
- may include amusing stories, reported speech and descriptions
- can be formal or informal, depending on the target audience
- should be written in an interesting or entertaining manner
- should give opinions and thoughts, as well as facts
- is in a less formal style than a report
- The article could be formal, semi-formal or informal, depending on your intended audience.
- Use vocabulary and descriptive language appropriate for the article.
- Linking words and expressions, and a variety of vocabulary will only improve your work and make it more interesting.
- DO NOT use over-personal or over-emotional language or simplistic vocabulary.

Candidates should select **ideas** from the passage and **develop** them relevantly, supporting what they write with **details** from the passage. Look for an appropriate register for the genre,[which is here a journal] and have a clear and balanced response which covers the three areas of the question. See that it is well sequenced, and is in the candidate's own words. Annotate separately for references to the attractions of Sun Ranch and its surroundings, to the activities and appeal of daily life as a worker at Sun Ranch and for references to the challenges of working in that environment and the opportunities for personal development a job there might offer.

Read **Passage A** carefully, and then answer **Question 1**.

Passage A: Badluck Way, Sun Ranch

The narrator recounts his year working on the remote Sun Ranch in southwest Montana, living the life of a modern day cowboy and learning more about himself and the land.

When the sun dropped behind the highest ridge of Gravelly Range, I sat on my front porch watching daylight quit the valley. In April, at three thousand metres, night came quickly. Once the sun winked out of sight, the day's hard, pale light and meagre heat poured across the western horizon in a torrent. Warm colours went first and fastest, balling up in an eddy of red, orange and ochre before slipping from view. I imagined those hues flowing across The Gravelles to glint on the small-town storefronts of Twin Bridges and reflect in the slow oxbow lakes of Beaverhead River. I pictured them gaining speed as they fled westward, skipping like stones across mountains, valleys, mountains and on to the sea.

I was alone in the cold crystalline night, thirty kilometres from a town of any consequence, staring out across the seldom-travelled gravel path that we on Sun Ranch called Badluck Way. The failing light made it easy to remember the land as it had looked in the summer. In my mind's eye the land glowed golden under a late July sun. Tall, drying bunch grass bent against the wind and fed the ranch's vast herds of cattle. Above it all wolves, grizzlies and other wild creatures made endless, inscrutable loops across the ridges and valleys.

The bustle and toil of life in August – long days on horseback and barbed wire fence work – had raised a thick network of scabs and scars on my hands. Some of the scars remained but they were the least of the high season's wounds. Staring into the darkness beyond Badluck Way, I returned to the moments that had demanded violence of me. Alone in the dark, I threw old punches again and set my finger against the rifle's trigger once more.

After one year on Sun Ranch, a year of work, sweat and hard choices, I was thinking about leaving. Dwindling snowdrifts dotted the landscape, some sculpted by the wind, others the consequence of my winter ploughing.

My house on Badluck Way was a log cabin designed by an architect who'd never intended to live in it. He'd drawn cramped rooms, sparse light fixtures and a drafty brick fireplace that kept the place cold no matter how much wood was burning. Living there, I'd come to hate the crevices between the wall logs. They gobbled incandescent light like candy and soaked up most of the glow from the cabin's two small windows. Neatly joined, a good log wall can be a masterpiece. My walls were sieves. On clear days, the rooms were flecked with glowing slivers of sunlight. During storms, the wind hissed in.

In Spring, when the world began to thaw and the weather allowed, I ate dinner on the front porch – a concrete slab kept sunless by an over-hanging roof. Deer, elk or hamburger from town went on to the grill of my little barbecue. When the meat was ready, I ate leaning forward to catch the heat rising from the coals. Most of the time I stayed comfortable on the porch because the house blocked everything except a straight north wind.

One way to explain how I got to Sun Ranch is that ever since I can remember I've been obsessed with the West. I grew up in Seattle, the son of a professional photographer and art director. Our first family visit to a ranch, when I was seven years old, lasted only a couple of days. We pulled spotted knapweed and helped move a few cows on horseback. My mother photographed every disintegrated outbuilding she could find. My father must have had a touch

of my own mania, since on returning to his work running the university's art museum, he organised a show called 'The Myth of the West'.

At eighteen, I sat down in front of my parents' computer to look for a job. I couldn't put the idea of ranching from my mind. Beneath a hypnotic magazine article about Sun Ranch, its surroundings and

its commitment to conservation, I found a job advertisement for a position beginning early that summer. The job title was 'Assistant Grazing Technician/Livestock Manager'. Of the qualities listed for successful applicants most were unremarkable, but the last three were different. I read them slowly and more than once: common sense, adaptability and gumption.

Question 1

In the final paragraph of **Passage A**, the narrator explains that he read a magazine article about Sun Ranch, which persuaded him to apply for the job as Assistant Grazing Technician/Livestock Manager.

Write the magazine article that the narrator might have read.

In your magazine article you should:

describe the attractions of Sun Ranch **and** its surroundings
explain the activities **and** appeal of daily life as a worker at Sun Ranch
suggest the challenges of working in that environment **and** the opportunities for personal development a job there might offer.

Base your magazine article on what you have read in Passage A, but be careful to use your own words. Address each of the three bullet points.

Give your magazine article a suitable headline and begin with, 'The Sun Ranch is located ...'
Write about 250 to 350 words.

Up to 15 marks are available for the content of your answer, and up to 10 marks for the quality of your writing.