

### Question 3

**How does the author organize the article? Support your response with details from the article.**

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**Exemplary Response:**

The author presents a question as the first subtitle, “What *is* Space Junk?” to draw the reader in (make him or her curious to find out the answer.) In this section, the author defines space debris and provides background information on when it began and how it became a problem. The second subtitle, “Crash Course”, is catchy (uses alliteration) and somewhat ominous; this section promises the reader “gory details.” Here, the author introduces a dramatic example of a collision between two communications satellites. The last subtitle, “Little Bits, But a Big Deal” uses slangy, informal language to issue a warning- the purpose of the article- about the problems posed by the small pieces of debris and the increased likelihood of more collisions as more and more space ventures occur.

***Note:** The exemplary response demonstrates a performance that exceeds the expectations of what is required to receive two points. The exemplary response contains multiple pieces of text-based information and support drawn from the reading passage that accompanied this item, many elements of which students typically use in their responses to receive two points.*

**English/Language Arts**  
**2-point Constructed-Response (CR) Rubric**

<b>2 points</b>	<b>Proficient</b> The response fulfills all the requirements of the task. The information given is text-based and relevant to the task.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>Partially Proficient</b> The response fulfills some of the requirements of the task, but some of the information may be too general, too simplistic, or not supported by the text.
<b>0 point</b>	<b>Not Proficient</b> The response does not fulfill the requirements of the task because it contains information that is inaccurate, incomplete, and/or missing altogether.

**Question 3, Sample A – 2 points**

**24. How does the author organize the article? Support your response with details from the article.**

He organizes the article with  
subtopics. He has three subtopics:  
"What is Space Junk?", "Crash Course",  
and "Little Bits, But a Big Deal." In  
each subtopic he talks about something  
different in detail.

*Notes: The response explains how the author organizes the article (e.g., three subtopics) and uses the titles of the subtopics for support. This response receives full credit for a Score Point 2.*

Question 3, Sample B – 1 point

**24.** How does the author organize the article? Support your response with details from the article.

The author breaks it down and sub-titles the paragraphs. This organizes it.

*Notes: This response explains the organizational pattern (e.g., breaks it down, sub-titles), but is not supported by any details. This response receives a Score Point 1.*

Question 3, Sample C – 0 points

- 24.** How does the author organize the article? Support your response with details from the article.

By making this article exciting and  
interesting to read

*Notes: This response does not accurately address the organization of the article. Therefore, this response receives a Score Point 0.*