

ES1102 Problem Solution Essay Draft 1 Self/Peer-Review Guidelines

Dr Lira Dumaguing, elcdldg@nus.edu.sg

Writer: Vishnu Prem

Reviewer: Jeremy Heng

Date: 3 March 2016

Instructions for the reviewer:

1. Comment on your partners' (Forum Groups) essay using the following questions as a guide. Record your comments on this document.
2. Your comments will be used by the writer to improve on his/her writing, so do provide specific and helpful feedback. Praise what he/she has done well, and offer **suggestions** for improvement.
3. Do not ask your partner to rewrite the paper just because you do not agree with his/her ideas. Instead, ask for more evidence to support his/her ideas.
4. Re-read your comments before submitting this document to your partner. Make sure your comments are clear and easy to follow. Be ready to provide further verbal explanation.
5. Check with the tutor if you're uncertain about anything.
6. Give a copy of this document to your partners through your Forum Groups.

| Content | |
|--|---|
| 1. Is the problem (one human inequality problem arising from globalization in which country) specifically and clearly stated? | A great majority of people still suffer from the inequalities created by Globalisation despite the existence of a minority benefiting from the growth. The essay focuses on the US. |
| 2. Does the background include the following: a. a definition of the keyword(s) with citation? b. the extent of the problem (what is happening now, how widespread/serious it is)? c. the causes of the problem / reasons it is still unsolved? d. the impact of the problem? (The writer might devote an entire paragraph to the impact.) e. why the problem needs | a. I understand the background completely without the need for definitions in the background.. b. Yes, the author does mention that the issue is present World-wide but particular also in the United States where unemployment is extremely high. c. The problem is not one that is easy to solve when expansion to foreign markets is necessary to keep costs low. d. The impact of the problem is illustrated in the figures given. For example, the author says ' <i>Between 2001 and 2011, some 2.1 million jobs in the manufacturing sector are said to be lost to the growing power of the world, China. This is due to the outsourcing of jobs where many large companies in the US have chosen to relocate in China.</i> ' e. The reason why it needs to be resolved is not explicitly stated but I can infer from the text that a persisting inequality is not one that should be left alone if a healthy society and economy is desired. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>to be solved / repercussions if the problem is left unsolved?</p> | |
| <p>3. Does the essay present at least one current solution?</p> <p>a. Does it analyze the current solution(s); i.e. explain the strengths/success and weaknesses/failure of the current solution(s) in solving the problem?</p> <p>b. Are the weaknesses explained and supported?</p> <p>c. Are you convinced that the weaknesses are valid? Why?</p> | <p>a. Yes, it describes 'education and training' as a means to combat unemployment caused by Globalisation. He backs this claim up by referencing articles from economic analysis sites and provides a brief explanation of why the solution is valid. He also accedes that the solution has pitfalls in that the retraining of personnel will not help recover jobs lost in the increasing automated industrialization of processes.</p> <p>b. Yes, the weaknesses are explained and supported with reference to external sources.</p> <p>c. The arguments put forward by the author is convincing because they do follow a logical flow (Increasing industrialisation → Unemployment → Retraining → Retraining does not improve the employee's performance to the point of being more efficient than a machine) and cites valid sources.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>4. Does the essay present suggestions on how to improve on the weaknesses identified in the current solutions?</p> <p>a. If the essay concludes that a current solution is unhelpful/not effective at all, does the essay present an alternative solution?</p> <p>b. Does the improvement/alternative solution suggested adequately address the weakness(es) identified?</p> <p>c. Is the improvement/alternative solution explained/supported?</p> <p>d. Are you convinced by the improvements/alternative suggestions proposed? Why?</p> | <p>a. Yes, the essay posits that an alternative to re-training is to simply employ nationalistic/protectionist measures to ensure the welfare and employability of at-risk employees by simply employing them first before sending the job overseas.</p> <p>b. The interventionist approach is discussed in the German context and is asserted to be successful.</p> <p>c. Yes, the author cites external sources to back up this claim.</p> <p>d. Yes, to an extent. The solution works in the German context but might fail in the US free market environment.</p> |
| Organization | |
| <p>5. Does the essay begin with a hook (something that attracts the reader to read further, e.g. anecdote, startling statistics,</p> | <p>The essay begins by drawing a reader in by singing praises about Globalisation then subverts the reader's expectations by introducing the negative side.</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| quotation, etc.)? | |
| <p>6. Identify the thesis statement.</p> <p>a. Identify and label the controlling idea and scope.</p> <p>b. Does the thesis statement make reference to the problem and the solution?</p> | <p>a. <i>'Globalisation in itself is seen as the greatest phenomenon able to boost local economies and in turn capable of eradicating poverty while increasing employment rate. While this may be true for a small minority of the global community, the fact remains that a great majority still suffer from the inequalities brought about by globalisation.'</i></p> <p>b. Yes it does.</p> |
| <p>7. Identify the plan of development.</p> <p>a. Does the plan of development give a preview of the main ideas to be examined in the following paragraphs?</p> | <p>a. Yes, the author does develop a plan of development. (In fact, there are two. Might want to combine them)</p> |
| <p>8. In each body paragraph:</p> <p>a. Identify the topic sentence.</p> <p>b. For each topic sentence, identify and label the controlling idea and scope.</p> <p>c. State the main idea of each body paragraph (in less than 5 words).</p> | <p>P1 TS: <i>'In his article titled 'China Toll', Scott (2012) have emphasized the alarming situation of unemployment in the US due to competition brought about by China.'</i> CI: Unemployment in US is due to Chinese competition MI: Reduce costs through global expansion = unemployment</p> <p>P2 TS: <i>'One method to overcome or mitigate the problem of unemployment is through education and training.'</i> CI: Education and training can reduce unemployment MI: Keep jobs local and train</p> <p>P3 TS: <i>'Furthermore, there have been other possible solutions suggested to tackle unemployment in the US with government interventionist policies.'</i> CI: The state plays an integral role in reducing unemployment through intervention. MI: Hire Americans Make Great Again</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>9. Does each paragraph provide sufficient elaboration and examples to illustrate the main assertion in the topic sentence?</p> <p>a. If reference is made to outside sources, are these sources properly cited; e.g. surname, year?</p> <p>b. If examples are provided, are these examples specifically linked to the sentences before and after? In other words, do the examples specifically prove a point made in the previous sentence? Alternatively, does the writer state, in the sentence right after the examples, what point he/she intends to make by presenting those examples?</p> | <p>a. References are properly cited and referenced!</p> <p>b. Yes, the linkages are really good.</p> |
| <p>10. Does each body paragraph end with a concluding sentence that links back to the main assertion in the topic sentence/thesis statement?</p> | <p>Perhaps this point could be improved.</p> |
| <p>11. In the conclusion (last paragraph of the essay):</p> <p>a. identify the restatement of the problem.</p> <p>b. Identify the restatement of the solution.</p> <p>c. Identify the sentences that provide the implications/significance of the solution, or those that provide food for thought.</p> | <p>a. Might require more restatement of the original problem.</p> <p>b. A rehash of the solution is present but a little vague.</p> <p>c. <i>'The state along with the NGOs should step up efforts to ensure its citizens do not lose out from the pressure brought about by globalisation.'</i> and <i>'Awareness also plays an important role in ensuring the inequalities do not persist while a small minority such as large companies benefit from globalisation.'</i></p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>12. Identify any missing links between sentences and ideas in all the paragraphs.</p> <p>a. Does any sentence appear out of place (“stand alone”, not related to the sentences before or after)?</p> <p>b. Can any part of the paragraph be improved with a linking word/expression eg Indeed, In fact, Unfortunately, Nevertheless, Although, yet, simultaneously, In contrast/comparison, For example, etc.</p> | <p>a. Nothing particularly stands out to me.</p> <p>b. The author's use of linking words is really good. The flow of the essay is nice.</p> |
| Language | |
| <p>1. Can you spot any of the following errors?</p> <p>a. Subject-verb agreement</p> <p>b. Singular-plural nouns</p> <p>c. Articles a and the</p> <p>d. Old to new information</p> <p>e. Parallel structures</p> <p>f. Use of connectors eg however, not only... but also...</p> <p>g. Use of pronouns <i>it</i> and <i>this</i></p> | <p>1. <i>'For many years now, globalisation have been lauded for its life changing effects on humanity.'</i> Globalisation is in the third person singular so you should use 'globalisation has been...'</p> <p>2. <i>'These are examples of the many inequalities which have befall over mankind since 'modernity' or what we call globalisation took place.'</i> Perhaps rewrite it as: <i>'These are some examples of the many inequalities which have befallen mankind since 'modernitisation' or the so-called globalisation took place.'</i> It still sounds a little weird though.</p> <p>3. <i>'Between 2001 and 2011, some 2.1 million jobs in the manufacturing sector are said to be lost to the growing power of the world, China.'</i> I'd use 'growing power of the world: China' instead.</p> <p>4. <i>'In an article posted in EconomicsHelp, Pettinger (2011) have made a case for reducing unemployment by ways of improving the skills of the workforce.'</i> should be <i>'... Pettinger (2011) made a case for reducing ...'</i></p> <p>5. <i>'This may be an effective in Germany.'</i> - Remove the an.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| | |
| <p>2. Highlight sentences that seem too long or unclear.</p> <p>3. Highlight sentences that sound unacademic.</p> <p>4. Highlight use of first and second person pronouns (e.g. "you", "I").</p> | <p>2. The sentence length is pretty decent. I liked the pacing</p> <p>3. <i>'With highly automated industries due to globalisation, many Americans lose their jobs due to the fact that these so called 'robots' may have taken over their jobs.'</i> But they are robots :(</p> <p>4. No use of 'You' and "I" :)</p> |