



Emerging | Exemplar Essay

Prep Work

Don't Start Too Early



Claim and Focus

While the essay attempts a general claim, the topic of the claim is not immediately clear ("You can start thinking about it but not too early"). The essay does not maintain focus on the topic, spending most of its time discussing the differences between high school and college. Finally, while a statement is made about "not starting too early," it does not create a clear counterclaim for the very general claim that is attempted.



Support and Evidence

Very little evidence is provided to support the author's claim. Any support that is provided is focused on the differences between college and high school, rather than the reasons a student should or should not begin preparing for college early. No real counterclaim is provided, and is therefore not supported by the text.



Organization

While this essay attempts to introduce the topic of discussion, there is little connection between the topic and the details offered throughout the response. Ideas are simply listed without any clear connections to each other or to the main topic or claim. Also, a conclusion is not present to fully wrap up the response.



Language and Style

Pervasive errors in language ("collage," "Its like," "but you have to get to live," "you have better food then high school") interfere with the meaning of the response. The language is not consistently formal ("stuff like that," "lots of work") and word choice and sentence structure create a response that is overly simplistic and redundant ("you have to," "you get to").



Using Exemplars in Your Lessons

Exemplar essays are tools to take abstract descriptions and make them more concrete for students. One way to use them is to print the clean copies of the essays and allow students to use the rubric to make notes or even find examples of important elements of an essay - thesis statements, introductions, evidence, conclusions, transitions, etc. Teachers can also use exemplars to illustrate what each score point within a trait 'looks like' in an authentic student essay. For additional ideas, please see "25 Ways to Use Exemplar Essays" by visiting the Curriculum Resources page in Help.

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You can start thinking about it but not too early. Collage is lots of work. Its like high school but way harder and you have to pay way more. It can be expensive but you have to get to live in a dorm with friends instead of having to listen to your parents. You have to go to classes in different places and not just in one building. They have better food then high school though. You get too see your friends any time you want and not just on weekends.

Don't start too early though. Collage comes later after high school, so you don't have to spend too much time like in elementary school. Just when you get to high school start thinking about what you want to do and stuff like that.



Notes
