



Writing Challenge Exemplar

This document contains the writing exemplars for the TeenEagle Writing Challenge. Before reading, be aware that the exemplar does not contain all judging criteria, nor is it meant to be used as the singular form of evaluation. This document is meant to be used as preparation for the Global Finals or in parallel with the Judging Criteria. Please see the difference in TeenEagle One, Two, and Three exemplars by looking at the headings. For any questions, contact uma@teeneagle.org.



TeenEagle Three

Prompt Example: James Harvey Robinson's enlightening book *The Mind in the Making* is quoted in *How to Win Friends and Influence People*.

What lessons does this excerpt teach you about positive communication and human psychology?

<p style="text-align: center;">100% to 75%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The essay contains between three to five paragraphs, depending on organization.● The introducing statement is given clearly, and incorporates the full prompt.● The essay states how many and which reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There should be two reasons.● Each "reason" is backed up by a supporting sentence, which further explains the reason or gives examples.● Each "reason" should provide a specific reference from the resource given in the prompt.● The essay has a conclusion, written differently than the introduction.● The essay uses sentence adverbs as subordinators/coordinators.● The essay uses a range of different syntactic patterns and synonyms to avoid repetition.● The essay is written primarily in third-person. It is written in a formal, academic tone.● The essay is easily followed, understandable, and has a minimum of spelling or grammatical errors.● The essay is 200-250 words long.	<p>Robinson's book is quoted as saying "The little word 'my' is the most important one in human affairs, and to reckon with it is the beginning of wisdom." That might seem like a pessimistic view of humans and our minds, but I believe that it is actually an important lesson on communication and psychology. I have two reasons for this opinion.</p> <p>Firstly, this quote is found in a chapter called A SURE WAY OF MAKING ENEMIES. The idea behind this quote is that insisting on one way of thinking is the only way to lose an argument. Understanding what we care about most can help people understand what we are actually arguing about. That means using or avoiding the word 'my' can make people more understanding communicators.</p> <p>Secondly, ego and what people care about can stop progress. If someone wants to get better at something, they must be willing to make mistakes and learn from them. Robinson's book also says that people want to keep believing what they already believe, and that they will argue as much as possible to keep it that way. However, if they learn to accept our mistakes and get rid of our ego, they will be able to become better, smarter, or more experienced.</p> <p>In conclusion, not understanding the strength of our egos can turn us into biased communicators and stop us from learning. This is why I say Robinson teaches us valuable lessons about our psychology.</p>
--	---



74% to 50%

- The essay contains a minimum of three paragraphs and a maximum of four, depending on organization.
- The introductory statement includes part of the prompt.
- The essay contains two reasons, although some may not be considered valid/scientific.
- The essay uses examples and supporting sentences after their reasons, although some may not be considered valid/scientific.
- The conclusion is written in the same way as the introduction.
- The essay uses some subordination and coordination.
- The essay incorporates some different sentence patterns and synonyms, but occasionally repeats itself.
- At least half of the essay is written in third-person. It is written in an academic but informal tone.
- There are a few grammatical or spelling mistakes, which do not interfere with comprehension.
- The essay is just under 200 words long.

Robinson's book says that "The little word 'my' is the most important one in human affairs, and to reckon with it is the beginning of wisdom." I think that it is an important lesson in communication. I have two reasons for this opinion. The idea behind this quote is showing that insisting on our way of thinking is the one way to lose an argument. Understanding what we care about most can help us understand what we are actually arguing about. So using or avoiding the word 'my' can make us more better communicators.

Also, our ego can stop our progress. Think about it in this way: if we want to get better at something, we have to make mistakes and learn from them. If we learn to accept our mistakes and get rid of our ego, we will be able to progress and get better at something that we care about.

In conclusion, I think Robinson was right. If we don't get the strength of our egos we will be biased communicators and it can be hard to learn. This is why I say Robinson teaches us valuable lessons about our psychology.



50% to 25%

- The essay contains a minimum of two paragraphs and a maximum of three, depending on organization.
- The introductory statement only lists the prompt, without providing a direction.
- The essay contains at least one reason which comes from the resource provided, while any others cannot be considered scientific/valid.
- The essay does not use examples or supporting sentences to explain the reasoning.
- The conclusion is not used or is not obviously concluding the essay.
- The essay only uses a few instances of coordination or subordination.
- The essay repeats itself in terms of syntactic patterns, vocabulary, and meaning.
- The essay is written in an overall informal tone.
- The essay is primarily in first-person.
- There are enough grammatical or spelling mistakes that stop complete comprehension of the text.
- The essay is around 150 words long.

Robinson's book gives us an important lesson in communication. I have two reasons for this opinion. Robinson says that we care about ourselves, if we only care about that then we will be bad communicators. We will make arguments and that will cause many problems in our lives. So he is right to say that we should not care about what we think and we should be better.

Also, our ego can be bad for us. If we want to learn we have to make mistakes but if we dont mistake we will not learn. Robinson said that we need to think about others. This is another reason that I think Robinson was right to say what he did. His chapter was important in the book how to win friends and inspire people. Robinson teaches us valuable lessons about our psychology.



25% to 0%

- The essay is incomplete or otherwise unfinished.
- The introductory statement does not include the prompt or does not answer the prompt.
- The essay contains one reason at most.
- The essay does not include supporting sentences or examples.
- The essay does not incorporate the reference given in the prompt.
- The essay does not use a conclusion.
- The essay does not use coordination, subordination, or a variety of syntactic patterns/vocabulary.
- The essay is written only in third-person, with an informal tone.
- The essay contains so many grammar or spelling mistakes that it is otherwise illegible.
- The essay is less than 100 words long.

Robinson says that we care about ourselves, if we only care about that then we will be bad communicators. We will make arguments and that will cause many problems in our lives. So he is right to say that we should not care about what we think and we should be more. Also our ego can be bad for us.



TeenEagle

TeenEagle Two

Prompt Example: Major themes in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone are love, death, and power. Choose one of these three themes and exemplify how it is discussed throughout the book.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>100% to 75%</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The essay contains three to five paragraphs, depending on organization quality.● The introducing statement is given clearly.● The essay states how many and which reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There should be two reasons.● Each "reason" is backed up by an example.● Each "reason" should come from the resource provided in the prompt.● The essay concludes with the prompt-ideally, adding a personal opinion.● The essay uses sentence adverbs as subordinators/coordinators.● The essay uses a range of different syntactic patterns and synonyms to avoid repetition.● The essay is written in a formal, academic tone. Both third-person and first-person are acceptable on this level.● The essay is easily followed, understandable, and has a minimum of spelling or grammatical errors.● The essay is 150-200 words long.	<p>A major theme in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is love. I also think it is the most important theme in the book. I have two reasons why I think this way.</p> <p>First, I'd like to point out that love doesn't have to be romantic. We can love our parents, siblings, and friends in very different ways. In fact, Harry's mother saved him from Lord Voldemort because she loved him so much. Love from a parent is an important theme in the book because without Lily, Harry would have died as a baby.</p> <p>Secondly, Harry becomes best friends with Ron and Hermione in this book. They are not perfect and sometimes fight, but they try to take care of each other. They also help Harry find the Philosopher's stone, and Hermione tells Harry that being brave and being a good friend is the most important thing. Their friendship made the ending possible and teaches Harry an important lesson.</p> <p>In conclusion, these two reasons are why I think the different types of love is the most important theme in Harry Potter.</p>
---	---



74% to 50%

- The essay contains three to four paragraphs, depending on organization quality.
- The introducing statement is partially given.
- The essay states how many reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There should still be two reasons, although one might not be considered scientific/valid.
- At least one "reason" is backed up by an example.
- At least one "reason" should come from the resource provided in the prompt.
- The essay partially concludes with the prompt.
- The essay uses some subordinators/coordinators.
- The essay uses some different syntactic patterns and synonyms.
- The essay is written in an academic tone, but sometimes it is informal. Both third-person and first-person are acceptable on this level.
- The essay has some spelling or grammatical errors that make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is 120-150 words long.

I think the best theme in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is love and I have two reasons why. Love doesn't have to be romantic. We can love our parents and friends in different ways. Harry's mother saved him from Lord Voldemort because she loved him so much. That means love is important Harry would have died without Lily's love.

Also, Harry becomes best friends with Ron and Hermione in this book. They are not perfect and sometimes fight, but they try to take care of each other. They are good friends in the book and will stay friends forever because they like each other so much. Their friendship teaches Harry an important lesson.

This is why I think love is the most important theme in Harry Potter.



50% to 25%

- The essay contains two paragraphs.
- The introductory statement is given, but the direction of the essay is not clear.
- The essay uses at least one reason taken from the resource provided in the prompt.
- The essay uses at least one example to back up the reason, but it is not considered scientific/valid.
- The essay only uses subordination or coordination a few times.
- The essay tends to repeat itself in terms of syntactic patterns, vocabulary, or information, but attempts to make some minor differences.
- The essay is mostly written in an informal tone, with a few instances of academic language.
- The essay has sections where spelling or grammatical mistakes make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is less than 120 words long.

Love is important in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, Harry's mother saved him from Lord Voldemort because she loved him so much. That means love is important Harry would have died without Lily's love. Also, Harry becomes best friends with Ron and Hermione in this book. They are good friends in the book and will stay friends because they like each other too much.

Their friendship teaches Harry a important lesson. Without love, what will happen in the book? Harry would not have any help. He would be very sad and then the book would not happen, also Voldemort would win the war very easily. This is why I think love is the most important in Harry Potter.



25% to 0%

- The essay is incomplete or otherwise unfinished.
- The essay does not use an introductory or concluding statement.
- The essay does not answer the prompt directly.
- The introducing statement does not include the prompt.
- The essay does not state how many reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There is only one reason, even if this reason is explored multiple times.
- The "reason" is backed with a personal example.
- The "reason" does not necessarily come from the resource stated in the prompt.
- The essay does not conclude with the prompt.
- The essay uses a few subordinators/coordinators.
- The essay tends to repeat itself with sentence patterns and vocabulary choices.
- The essay is written in an informal tone.
- The essay has spelling or grammatical errors that make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is less than 100 words long.

Love is important in Harry Potter. Harry's mother saved him from Voldemort because she loved him so much. That means love is important. Harry would have died without Lily love. Also, Harry becomes best friends with Ron and Hermione in this book. They are good friends in the book. Their friendship teaches Harry an important lesson. Love is the most important in Harry Potter.



TeenEagle

TeenEagle One

Prompt Example: What global cause do you care about most? Why is this cause important to you? Use an example from Rise Up to explain your answer.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>100% to 75%</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The essay contains three to four paragraphs, depending on organization quality.● The introducing statement is given clearly.● The essay states how many and which reasons the writer will use to back their statement.● Each "reason" is backed up by an example.● Each "reason" should come from the resource provided in the prompt.● The essay concludes with the prompt-ideally, adding a personal opinion.● The essay uses sentence adverbs as subordinators/coordinators.● The essay uses a range of different syntactic patterns and synonyms to avoid repetition.● The essay is written in a formal, academic tone.● The essay is easily followed, understandable, and has a minimum of spelling or grammatical errors.● The essay is 120-150 words long.	<p>I think the most important thing in the world is taking care of trash. I learned this because of Boyan Slat in the book Rise Up and I have two reasons why I think this way.</p> <p>First, plastic trash can take 500 years to break down. That means that the plastic we throw away will stay in oceans or on the ground for a very long time. This plastic can hurt animals, who might eat it because they think that it is food. Plastic trash is dangerous for animals.</p> <p>Second, Boyan Slat invented a device to clean plastic. Before that, no one was doing anything. Boyan knew we had to take care of our planet and pick up after ourselves. More devices should be invented to help pick up trash in forests or cities.</p> <p>In conclusion, I think we must all take care of our plastic.</p>
---	--



74% to 50%

- The essay contains three to four paragraphs, depending on organization quality.
- The introducing statement is partially given.
- The essay states how many reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There should still be two reasons, although one might not be considered scientific/valid.
- At least one "reason" is backed up by an example.
- At least one "reason" should come from the resource provided in the prompt.
- The essay partially concludes with the prompt.
- The essay uses some subordinators/coordinators.
- The essay uses some different syntactic patterns and synonyms.
- The essay is written in an academic tone, but sometimes it is informal. Both third-person and first-person are acceptable on this level.
- The essay has some spelling or grammatical errors that make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is 100-120 words long.

I think the most important thing in the world is taking care of trash. I learned this because of Boyan Slat in the book Rise Up.

First, plastic trash takes a long time to go away. That means that it will stay in oceans or on the ground forever and this plastic can hurt animals who eat it, they think that it is food but it is dangerous for animals. Boyan Slat invented a device to pick up plastic. But no one was doing anything before. Boyan knew we must pick up our trash. More devices should be invented to help pick up trash in forests or cities.

I think we must all take care of our plastic.



50% to 25%

- The essay contains two paragraphs.
- The introductory statement is given, but the direction of the essay is not clear.
- The essay uses at least one reason taken from the resource provided in the prompt.
- The essay uses at least one example to back up the reason, but it is not considered scientific/valid.
- The essay only uses subordination or coordination a few times.
- The essay tends to repeat itself in terms of syntactic patterns, vocabulary, or information, but attempts to make some minor differences.
- The essay is mostly written in an informal tone, with a few instances of academic language.
- The essay has sections where spelling or grammatical mistakes make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is less than 100 words long.

The most important thing is trash. Plastic trash takes a long time to go away. That means that it stays forever and this plastic can hurt animals who eat it, they think that it is food.

Also Boyan Slat invented something to find plastic but no one was doing anything before. Boyan knew we must pick up our trash. More things should help pick up trash in forests or cities. I think we must all take care of our plastic.



25% to 0%

- The essay is incomplete or otherwise unfinished.
- The essay does not use an introductory or concluding statement.
- The essay does not answer the prompt directly.
- The introducing statement does not include the prompt.
- The essay does not state how many reasons the writer will use to back their statement. There is only one reason, even if this reason is explored multiple times.
- The "reason" is backed with a personal example.
- The "reason" does not necessarily come from the resource stated in the prompt.
- The essay does not conclude with the prompt.
- The essay uses a few subordinators/coordinators.
- The essay tends to repeat itself with sentence patterns and vocabulary choices.
- The essay is written in an informal tone.
- The essay has spelling or grammatical errors that make it difficult to follow.
- The essay is less than 50 words long.

Plastic trash takes a long time to go away. That means that it stays forever and this plastic can hurt animals who eat it, they think that it is food. We must help pick up trash in forests or cities.