

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 1

- underdeveloped
- narrow language
- tone/voice not evident
- syntactical errors

Adventure!!

Dear, My Son Hercules

Would you like to come on a Adventure with me to save Pegasus because Hades has took him to the under World and has him Captive.

This journey will be on ground we will have to walk and maybe ride on a boat for a bit. We are saving Pegasus because I like Pegasus, This trip will take probly 1 month or more. If you would like to help me meet me at King Midas's castle in 3 days.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 1

- not supported opinion
- little support
- language – does not develop respect
- syntactical issues

Seal Hunting

There are many people hunting seals everywhere today. I do not think it is right to do.

I do not think it is right to hunt seals because they use it for fur coats people can just wear regular coats and not have to look so high fashioned it doesn't matter what you wear what matters is what you are doing to seals. Seals have a right to live just like we people do how would you like that to happen to you?

They are nice, cute, and adorable and I don't see how people can hunt animals like that it is stupid I understand that people need to eat but you don't need to be hunting thousands of seals.

It is ridiculous that people can be so happy about hunting seals when they are great good animals I wouldn't be happy do hunt a seal.

The way that they kill the seals is stupid they take a poll and whack there heads. I think it is cruel. I wish that people would stop the seal hunting and just eat something else it's as simple as that.

There is a lot of animal cruelty going on today and I don't like it. I know that a lot of people don't like it and there is something you can do about it share to people what you think about it and stop buying seals, and all of that stuff.

You might think that seals are stupid and don't do any thing but they aren't and one day they could be extinct and then you don't know what you have until it's gone.

Please Stop The Seal Hunt.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 2

- verb subject agreement
- little sentence variety
- somewhat repetitious
- adequate explanation and justification
- general/unsupported opinions and support
- repetitive sentence openers
- basic vocabulary

Why students shouldn't have to wear uniforms

Students should not have to wear school uniforms. Students should be aloud to wear what they want to wear what the want to school. When students get to wear what they want they would be happier. If students could wear what they want parents wouldn't have to wash clothes as much or have to pay for them. The next paragraphs explain why students shouldn't wear uniforms.

Parents wouldn't have to wash clothes as often if there weren't any uniforms. Parents might complain to the school about how much they have to wash clothes. Parents might take their children to other schools without uniforms. Parents might not wash the clothes every day and they would be dirty. Having to wash uniforms and regular clothes so often would cost more money for washing supplies.

If the schools forced students to wear uniforms parents would have to pay for them and that would make them mad. Parents would have less money to buy school supplies. Parents might not buy the clothes and the student wouldn't wear them. Parents might complain to the school board about it. Parents would have to buy school uniforms and clothes for students outside of school so it would cost them more money.

When students have to wear uniforms they couldn't have their own individuality. Students might not wear their uniforms if they get angry about having to wear them. Students might wreck their uniforms if they didn't want to wear them. Some students might leave the school and go to a different one. If the students don't have to wear uniforms, they would be happier and they would work harder on their schoolwork.

There is no doubt that students don't want to wear uniforms. Parents wouldn't want their children to wear uniforms either. That's why there shouldn't be school uniforms. The negative things about uniforms definitely outweigh the positives for school uniforms. Hopefully this essay changes you mind about students wearing school uniforms.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 2

- basic text: predictable, general opinions and basic judgment, supports opinions with predictable examples
- run on sentences
- inconsistent punctuation
- tone and voice are evident

Youth Voting

Should teens or children in Saskatchewan really be allowed to vote? Well, my opinion is that teens that are under the age of sixteen shouldn't be allowed to vote. Canadian Citizens that are sixteen and older should be allowed to vote. I think that because by the time we are sixteen we should know at least enough about voting in Canada and Canadian democracy, that we can vote and we can make an important decision like this. SOME of us are mature about it and take this kind of stuff very serious. I also think this because when you turn sixteen you are going to be making a lot of other important decisions or have already made very important decisions and have learned our lessons on making important decisions. Being sixteen we kinda meet in the middle, I mean, fifteen is too young, eighteen is too long to wait! even though if you were sixteen you would only have to wait two years, but anyway I think this is a reasonable decision for people who are sixteen to vote as long as you are a Canadian citizen, and are qualified to vote as residents of Saskatchewan

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 2

- basic: adequate explanations, predictable connections, makes basic judgments
- tone and voice are evident
- verb subject agreement
- spelling usually correct

No More Homework!

Students should receive less homework or no homework or at all. I say barely any homework should be handed out throughout the school year. Most kids don't like homework so why are teachers handing it out? Kids are getting stressed out with homework. What do you think about homework? Should it stay or should it go?

Most students would love if homework were banned from school. Children are getting over loaded with homework. They do enough at school. They have six hours a day at school. Kids don't want to come home from a long school day and do more work. They would rather go outside and have fun. After all, they are only a kid once.

When a child brings homework home parents don't want to waste time doing homework. People have busy schedules doing sports and activities like hockey, piano, dance and gymnastics. Sometimes parents don't know the answers or just don't care. Lots of times a parent will be at work and can't help their child. Students don't learn any thing if they are struggling to do their work, they will just get frustrated.

Homework tends to make youth less excited about learning. Homework harms kids and makes them not want to learn. Children get frustrated if they don't know the answers and their teachers are not there to help them, so it's pointless to give out homework students don't know how to do.

What's the point of giving out homework when children don't benefit any thing from it? Kids do enough at school. Most students don't like being over loaded with homework, I know I don't. I believe we should have no more homework!

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 3

- predictable connection
- general opinion/judgment
- opinion supports (basic)
- a few syntactical issues
- cues and conventions – 3's

May 30th, 2011

Principles

Dear,

I am a student at _____ and I am _____ Middle School. I am twelve years old and am in grade seven. Today I am writing to you because I don't agree that students who don't get their work done on time should get more days to finish it.

I think that students that do get their work done on time should get a zero. All of the other classmates get their homework done on time and it's not fair when other students get extra days to finish. The teacher gives a good amount of time to finish their work and some students waste it. If those students don't get their work done on time they should especially not be allowed to get extra days to work on it. These are some reasons why students shouldn't get extra time to finish.

I think that if teachers start giving zeros to kids who don't get their work done

on time the kids will start to hand in their assignments in on time. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 3

- provides support with reasons/explanation
- makes judgments
- effective and engaging
- tone/voice evident
- conclusion weak
- limited/simple composition

French Class

French should be a class that should be mandatory for students to take in our school. Taking French can benefit people in numerous ways. For example, if someone travels to a place like Québec, they could speak French themselves, not need a translator, and you wouldn't have to speak in just English either. Also, it is quite interesting to know how to speak another language because if someone travels the world and meets another person who can speak French, they could end up making a new friend. French language is also related to many other languages as well. If people speak French, catching on to other languages would be easy. Imagine this; if teachers can take kindergarteners, who have been speaking English all their life, and say to them that they are not going to the bathroom unless they ask in French, then it is obviously easy. People could pass this class without even thinking. Being able to speak a different language could help everyone get into college, or get a certain job. That is why French should be a class that students MUST take.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 3

- good insights
- logical progression
- sentence formation errors and somewhat incoherent
- has some compelling reasons supported by evidence
- has clear organization
- ideas are developed
- language is appropriate for audience
- point of view is established
- some sentence errors

Why There Should be more Reading in School

1 2 3 4

I think that students in school should get a class everyday for just reading. Right now students at School only get a class on Day 5 for just reading, and 10 minutes on every other school day. Here are some reasons why there should be:

For starters, reading is fun to do. For instance, you could read a story from a different point of view and go where ever the story is going and expand your imagination. If kids are reading they are less likely to talk to and disturb others and there are lots of different kinds of books for anyone to find what they like to read about, and if students enjoy reading in school they would think better about school and would enjoy it more.

Another example is that students can learn new words and what they mean. For example reading can tell you from a word's use in a situation what it means. You would be able to understand different sayings and other things that people say that you didn't know what they meant before. If you use and know more complex words it could help you in your career or job and you wouldn't have to look up words in the dictionary so often.

Also, reading is needed for almost all careers and jobs that you can do, and, it is something you need for everyday life. You can learn about other cultures and countries without having to go anywhere. There are lots of jobs that all you do is bookwork and if you don't know how to read well it could be a problem, and you need to be able to read well and fluently to give speeches.

For example, studies have shown that kids who learn to read by the age of 3 are less likely to end up in prison, drop out of school, or take drugs – Wikipedia. So if there isn't enough reading in schools, it won't be good for students or the rest of society.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 4

- gets the job done
- adequate support
- reasonably mature word choice and writing style
- weak conclusion
- good conventions

Parents Have To Stop

Why do parents always make their kids do an activity that they don't want to do?

All of the time they say "No, you can't quit," and "No, you have to go to dance!" Parents should stop making their kids do an activity that they do not enjoy.

It is understandable that the parents would want their kids to do any activity that they choose for them, because they are probably the ones who have to pay for it. The problem with that is if the kids don't even like the activity, why bother wasting money on something they aren't going to pursue. If the parents are going to pay for their kids activities, then they should at least let them pick what they want to do as an activity! If the parents don't let them pick, then they should talk with their kids about it.

Kids should be active, but if they don't like the activity that their parents have set up for them, they probably won't be very good at it and therefore, they won't get the exercise that they need. You should have an activity that you like to do because it helps you with many things. It helps you to stay fit and makes you have energy throughout the whole day! Being active is a good way to improve someone's health. If your kids aren't used to being active, then the parents should help them find a sport or activity that they will enjoy and want to do a lot so that they can stay active.

So many kids out there have amazing potential to excel in other activities. They are just so caught up in their busy schedules that their parents have set up for them that they have no time to strengthen their abilities in other activities that they want to do. Kids want to be kids while they still can, they don't want to be forced into something that they can do when they are all grown up. Kids want to do kid stuff, like dancing, singing, sports, cheerleading, etc. while they still can! At least twenty million kids register for some kind of activity each year, 70 percent of the kids quit and never do it again. One of the main reasons for this is that the parents want them to do a different activity that the child doesn't even like, and make their kids quit the one that he/she loves to do! Just because a kid quits an activity, doesn't mean that he/she will grow up to quit every activity that they find!

Kids aren't kids forever, so let them choose the activity that they love, not the parent.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 4

- sophisticated, well-developed
- personal connections
- insightful connections
- compelling support
- clear organization
- tone/voice engaging
- strong lead/conclusion
- coherence throughout

Hunting A Sport to Cherish

There's nothing like a misty morning in the mountains when all you can hear is the majestic sound of an elk bugling, and you're in a tree stand watching them. Some people think hunting is a bad thing and that people shouldn't be allowed to hunt. Personally I think that's absurd.

I love to hunt, it's a good way to get outdoors. When you're hunting you can see mountains, sanddunes, marshes, forests, arctic region, and other wonderful places. You don't get cabin fever or get stuck in an office all day. Even when hunting season is over you still get to go and scout for animals and put up trail cams.

It also keeps you active! There's nothing like walking 10 miles a day in search of animals. Sometimes you walk more than 10 miles a day. Walking this much keeps you fit and healthy. It also teaches you to listen for movement at all times and look for movement at all times. I'm not saying that if you just work out by hunting it will keep you at top physical shape because that's not true. You have to work out in a gym if you're going on a big hunt in the mountains so you can walk for hours and hours. But it does help you stay fit.

One thing that's very fun is getting that adrenaline rush when there's a big buck running straight towards you, or when a pheasant flies right up in your face. There's also the adrenaline rush when you see a monster deer in your sights, and when you pull the trigger and hear the whap of the bullet hitting the deer, the adrenaline rushes through you!

Hunting can also be a competitive sport. You can have a skeet shooting competition or a target shooting contest. But you can also compete with another person to see who shoots the bigger animal. You can also compete against yourself by trying to beat the score of your last buck this year.

But most importantly, hunting brings people together. My dad is the reason I hunt. He's been taking me hunting since I was five years old. Hunting with my dad has brought my dad and me closer together. And I think it can bring other people closer together.

Hunting is a great sport if you want to go outside, be active, get that exciting adrenaline rush, and spend time with family members. In my opinion, hunting is a great sport and don't care what anybody says about it because I will always love this sport and I hope you will give it a try.

GRADE SEVEN

PERSUASIVE – LEVEL 4

- very good insights and supports
- definite voice
- good organization
- good introduction/conclusion
- some syntactical problems

The Impact of Popular Culture on Today's Youth

Popular culture has a major impact on today's society, especially our youth. As defined by dictionary.com, "popular culture is contemporary life style and items that are well know and generally accepted, cultural patterns are widespread within a population; also called pop-culture." In the last ten years, the effect of popular culture on today's youth has developed in different ways due to the advances in technology. With a new discovery of internet, youth has been able to access whatever information they desire. Youth has started using chat lines and search engines inappropriately. Today the media is putting pressure on our youth and are tempting us to be like the people on television. Some athletes today are cheating and lying and putting a bad influence on the youth. Popular culture has a negative effect on today's youth.

The internet is destroying our youth. First and foremost, search engines are allowing youth to search information, pictures, videos and more that are inappropriate. Its good to have a search engine to find useful information, but there needs to be a limit to what we can search. We, as a civilization, need to ban this stuff from our society. Youth today can go on the internet and google "Brittney Spears" and find negative information causing youth to act like her. The internet is also influencing violence. Now you can research shootings, guns and gangs and learn from it and this does harm in our world.

Chat lines that youth are using are becoming unprotected and harmful. For instance today more and more of our youth are going on these chat lines and into chat

rooms and getting involved with the wrong people. Our youth starts giving away information like where they are from, their age, location and address which makes it easy for harm to find them. Sure you can talk to friends, family and peers, but our youth has got to start realizing the danger and harm strangers can do. There have been a few cases where teenage girls fall in love with strange men from these chat lines and run off to meet them, only to reappear dead several months later.

The media also has a several negative effects on today's youth. The people we see on television or read about in magazines or hear about on the radio are the youth's role models. We look up to them for guidance and what they do we are inspired to do too. Brad Pitt cheated on his wife, according to "People Magazine". That influences the youth to think its fine and there's nothing bad about it when really there is. Nicole Richie was a good role model for a while, then she went anorexic and what would come of her fans? That they need to become anorexic too. Or Lindsey Lohan, she was in various movies from, "Drama Queen", to "Mean Girls", to the Disney's movie, "Herbie Fully Loaded". She was an inspiration, but then she messed up and it got out to youth. She was doing drugs and drinking and driving, says "People Magazine". That has a huge negative influence on youth who want to be like her, and I know that the last thing we need in our community is drug abuse, drinking carelessly and violence.

Some athletes are cheating and lying to get to the top. For example, Barry Bonds, left field, San Francisco player was caught with steroids. This has an impact to any baseball player wanting to make it to the big leagues knowing that a hero or professional had to cheat to be successful. It can make youth loose confidence and cheat as well. Troy Glaus former third base Blue Jays player also got busted with steroids. It gives his team a bad picture and they lose fans. Tennis player, Martina Hingus was busted for drug abuse just a few months ago. This non-sense can ruin their careers and have fans loose respect. All these steroids, drugs, lies and cheating only ruin the athlete's occupation and put bad examples on not only our youth but our young adults as well, who are just trying to succeed.

In conclusion, popular culture has a negative impact on today's youth due to internet, media and athletes. They teach us how to, cheat, lie and make wrong choices. The popular culture is supposed to inspire us to do well and reach our goals by hard work. If they start to cheat and lie it's a let down to the youth who believe in achievement through hard work, popular culture has a negative impact and it's up to our society to change it!