



Emerging | Exemplar Essay

Call or Text

Both Good and Bad



Clarity and Focus

The essay misses the purpose of the prompt, predominantly presenting a defense of texting instead of a fair evaluation of each method of communication. There is no clear thesis nor a central unifying idea, and the demands of the prompt are not addressed.



Development

Supporting details are disconnected from a clear writing purpose and are not developed. There is an inadequate evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of both methods of communication, as per the demands of the prompt. The evidence is rather general and largely favors texting. While one advantage of calling is offered, it reads as an afterthought positioned as the last sentence (“Calling can be good”).



Organization

A lack of structure and transitions makes the essay difficult to follow. Related topics are not grouped together (advantages vs. disadvantages or calling vs. texting). The introduction is minimal and a conclusion is missing entirely.



Language and Style

An informal style is employed and vocabulary is basic throughout; the language does not attend to the reader's interests. When complex sentence structure is attempted, run-ons result (“You don't have problems with hearing it clearly because you just send the text and you can use cute emojis, like :) or :(but a picture”).



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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Nobody calls anyone anymore. With all of those smart phones and people's busy lives, no one has the time to call their family to tell them they're okay or to make plans. If I had to choose I'd text. It's easier because you're not stuck on the phone. You don't have problems with hearing it clearly because you just send the text and you can use cute emojis, like :) or :(but a picture. But texting can be dangerous like whenever you're driving and you aren't paying attention to the road, you can get into a car crash. Calling can be good too like when you can get the chance to talk to your family members that are not in the same state or country and you can hear them talk again.