



Emerging | Exemplar Essay

Is It Art?

Graffiti and Art



Claim and Focus

The writing offers a claim (“Graffiti is vandalism and it is not art”), although it is unsupported throughout the essay. The ideas presented are mostly on topic, but veer slightly off focus (“Do you know how people can get up there to put it so high?”). The writing does not fully address the demands of the prompt.



Support and Evidence

Relevant, objective details are minimal; most support is subjective and informal (“you would not like it because you are paying money for that building”). The writer only uses one quote from the sources and does not expand on this detail (“Source 4 says that Chicago spent 6.5 million to get rid of graffiti”).



Organization

The essay lacks formal structure and has no clear development of an introduction, body, or conclusion. Sentences are very simplistic in format. Little to no transitions are present (“As you can see graffiti is vandalism and not art!”).



Language and Style

Shifts in perspective are present in the essay (“when I go into the city” and “how would you feel”), which are somewhat confusing and create an informal style. Sentences are repetitive (“some people say”), and the word choice is overall basic and often improper (“It is there business that is being ruined”).



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 go anywhere in the world and see graffiti. When I go into the city to visit my family I see graffiti everywhere on the streets. The graffiti was even on really tall buildings. Do you know how people can get up there to put it up so high? Some people feel like graffiti is not art and some feel like it is. Graffiti is vandalism and it is not art. How would you feel if you owned a business that got often got tagged with graffiti? You would not like it because you are paying money for that building. It is there business that is being ruined, not yours. Graffiti is very bad for the city and the government. It costs money to remove. Source 4 says that Chicago spent 6.5 million to get rid of graffiti. That is a lot of money just to remove tags from buildings. Some people dont have that type of money. It is not right to put graffiti on places that are not yours. If you want art, put it in your house, and not on the city buildings. As you can see graffiti is vandalism and not art!



Notes
