



# WY-TOPP Writing Exemplars

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# 7th Grade

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## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

### BACKGROUND and PURPOSE

The WY-TOPP ELA test has a Writing portion for grades 3, 5, 7, and 9. Each writing test contains one or more passages that relate to a prompt. Students are required to read passages associated with a topic, and then write a response based on a prompt. This type of text-based response requires students to use evidence from the passages as support for their ideas. Students do not answer comprehension questions about the prompt.

The responses in this document were scored and annotated by Wyoming teachers who were trained as human scorers. As a basis for developing a common understanding of the scoring criteria, an annotation follows each response to explain the prominent characteristics of the response described in the rubric. Examples of student responses represent some of the various combinations of the score points across the scoring domains. These responses are not intended to provide a full spectrum of examples for every score point in every domain. On the WY-TOPP ELA test, student responses will be scored by an artificial intelligence (AI) engine that has been designed to predict human responses, based on the WY-TOPP Writing Rubrics. More information about the AI scoring engine is available [here](#).

For more information on the rubrics used to score writing responses on WY-TOPP, visit the WY-TOPP website under "[WY-TOPP Assessment Blueprints and Rubrics](#)."

### PROMPT

Write an essay in which you give your opinion about whether high school should start earlier or later in the day. Use information from the passages in your essay. Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- read the passages;
- plan your response;
- write your response; and
- revise and edit your response.
- 

Be sure to:

- include a claim;
- address counterclaims;
- use evidence from multiple sources; and
- avoid overly relying on one source

To view the Grade 7 passage set, click for [passage 1](#) and [passage 2](#).

## ELA Writing Rubrics for WY-TOPP Summative Assessment - Grades 6-10 - Argumentative

<b>Grades 6-10</b>			
<b>Argumentation Writing Rubric</b>			
<b>(Score points within each domain include most of the characteristics below)</b>			
<b>Score</b>	<b>Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)</b>	<b>Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)</b>	<b>Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric begins at score point 2)</b>
<b>4</b>	<p>The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear claim and effective organizational structure creating coherence and completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strongly maintained claim with little or no loosely related material</li> <li>• Clearly addressed alternate or opposing claims*</li> <li>• Skillful use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>• Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end with a satisfying introduction and conclusion</li> <li>• Appropriate style and tone established and maintained</li> </ul>	<p>The response provides thorough, convincing, and credible support, citing evidence for the writer’s claim that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smoothly integrated, thorough, and relevant evidence, including precise references to sources</li> <li>• Effective use of a variety of elaborative techniques to support the claim, demonstrating an understanding of the topic and text</li> <li>• Clear and effective expression of ideas, using precise language</li> <li>• Academic and domain-specific vocabulary clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose</li> <li>• Varied sentence structure, demonstrating language facility</li> </ul>	
<b>3</b>	<p>The response is adequately sustained and generally focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clear claim and evident organizational structure with a sense of completeness. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintained claim, though some loosely related material may be present</li> <li>• Alternate or opposing claims included but may not be completely addressed*</li> <li>• Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>• Adequate progression of ideas from beginning to end with a sufficient introduction and conclusion</li> <li>• Appropriate style and tone established</li> </ul>	<p>The response provides adequate support, citing evidence for the writer’s claim that includes the use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally integrated and relevant evidence from sources, though references may be general or imprecise</li> <li>• Adequate use of some elaborative techniques</li> <li>• Adequate expression of ideas, employing a mix of precise and general language</li> <li>• Domain-specific vocabulary generally appropriate for the audience and purpose</li> <li>• Some variation in sentence structure</li> </ul>	

*Continued on the following page*

## ELA Writing Rubrics for WY-TOPP Summative Assessment - Grades 6-10 - Argumentative

Score	Purpose, Focus, and Organization (4-point Rubric)	Evidence and Elaboration (4-point Rubric)	Conventions of Standard English (2-point Rubric)
<b>2</b>	<p>The response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task but may include loosely related or extraneous material; and it may have a claim with an inconsistent organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focused claim but insufficiently sustained or unclear</li> <li>• Insufficiently addressed alternate or opposing claims*</li> <li>• Inconsistent use of transitional strategies with little variety</li> <li>• Uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end with an inadequate introduction or conclusion</li> </ul>	<p>The response provides uneven, cursory support/evidence for the writer’s claim that includes partial use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weakly integrated evidence from sources; erratic or irrelevant references or citations</li> <li>• Repetitive or ineffective use of elaborative techniques</li> <li>• Imprecise or simplistic expression of ideas</li> <li>• Some use of inappropriate domain-specific vocabulary</li> <li>• Most sentences limited to simple constructions</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some minor errors in usage but no patterns of errors</li> <li>• Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<p>The response is related to the topic but may demonstrate little or no awareness of the purpose, audience, and task; and it may have no discernible claim and little or no discernible organizational structure. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absent, confusing, or ambiguous claim</li> <li>• Missing alternate or opposing claims*</li> <li>• Few or no transitional strategies</li> <li>• Frequent extraneous ideas that impede understanding</li> <li>• Too brief to demonstrate knowledge of focus or organization</li> </ul>	<p>The response provides minimal support/evidence for the writer’s claim, including little if any use of sources, facts, and details. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimal, absent, erroneous, or irrelevant evidence or citations from the source material</li> <li>• Expression of ideas that is vague, unclear, or confusing</li> <li>• Limited and often inappropriate language or domain-specific vocabulary</li> <li>• Sentences limited to simple constructions</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of basic conventions. The response may include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various errors in usage</li> <li>• Inconsistent use of correct punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>0</b>			<p>The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions, with frequent and severe errors often obscuring meaning.</p>

\*Not applicable at grade 6

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-1

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 1 of 3)

Should school districts start schools later than they do? Teenagers are going to school tired and unable to focus due to the lack of sleep they are getting. School districts should consider starting school later so minor's get the amount of sleep they need. Starting schools later would give many positive outcomes, positive effects in the classroom, and give the opportunity of more sleep to teens.

With later starting times, that would give teenagers the opportunity to achieve the needed amount of sleep. According to experts, an average teenager needs about nine hours of sleep each night, but they aren't getting the amount needed. If school districts were to start school at a later time, teenagers would be able to achieve the needed amount of sleep and be able to pay better attention in class. The author of "High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens" (2007) states, "Eventually, a plan emerged: The district decided to flip the elementary school start time with the high school start time. Research shows that young children aren't as sleepy in the early morning, unlike the typical teenager." Teenagers need to be able to get the amount of sleep they need in order to be able to focus at school and school districts can change starting times to make it possible for teens to get that extra sleep. If we were to switch school starting times with children and teens, we would see a difference in the way teenagers behave at school and maybe at home.

Not only would later starting times at school benefit teenager's sleeping schedule, but it could change issues like depression. "High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens," (2007) says, "students reported less depression when there was a later starting time." she says. "And teachers reported that students were more alert and ready for learning. Parents reported that their children were easier to live with because their emotions were more regulated." School districts that have changed starting times to a later time have noticed that because students are getting the amount of sleep needed, their behaviors have improved and it's a lot better to be around them. The same article states that teenagers also pay more attention in school and want to learn, because instead of complaining about being tired and not being able to focus, they are alert to their surroundings and it is easier to pay attention in their classes. Later start offs for a school day is very beneficial to helping common issues like depression, not paying attention in class, and also helping teens have less attitude, which are common issues with teenagers. With all these positive things that are happening outside of the classroom, think of the changes happening in the classroom.

Another side effect of schools starting later is, it's affecting the classroom in wonderful ways, and teachers have been noticing big differences. "High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens," (2007) quotes, "' We found that our students were more on time and in better attendance first period than they had been in the past, ' she says." Schools starting later

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-1

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 2 of 3)

motivates kids to get to class on time and ready to learn. Districts have also noticed that students aren't dropping out or moving schools as much as they used to. Also in the same article the writer states that schools around the world have noticed that less and less students are deciding to drop out of schools or travel to different schools. Students actually feel the need to go to school because they aren't tired and since they are going to class, subjects might be easier for them to pass. Waking up later is causing them to pay more attention in school and they aren't missing out on lessons or getting yelled at by their teachers because of falling asleep

in class. Not only are they not moving schools and paying better attention, but students aren't falling asleep in class because they are getting that extra sleep. Yes, students can go to bed earlier to get the whole nine hours of sleep, but what about all those assignments teachers assigns to you that is due the next day? The article also says that teenagers don't usually ever go to bed early, because it's just in their nature. Teachers expect their students to get work done that they assign them, and yes, you should do your homework, but sometimes it's too much and we have to stay up later finishing it, therefore we go to bed late and then wake up the next day and got to school tired and unable to focus, leading us to miss out on lessons, getting bad grades for engaged learning, and may lead to getting students yelled at by teachers for falling asleep. Later starts for school is more favorable, because it is changing life outside and inside of school in very positive ways.

School districts should consider starting school later so minor's get the amount of sleep they need. Starting schools later would give many positive outcomes, positive effects in the classroom, and give the opportunity of more sleep to teens. Later starting times makes it possible for students to have better mental health, a positive classroom environment, and give teens the chance to achieve that full nine hours of sleep they need.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-1 Annotation

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 3 of 3)

### 4- Purpose/Focus/ Organization

This response is fully sustained and consistently focused. The introduction provides a claim that is developed and supported throughout (*Starting schools later would give many positive outcomes, positive effects in the classroom, and give the opportunity of more sleep to teens*). The response includes a logical progression of ideas, with a skillful use of transitions at the beginning of paragraphs (*With later starting times; Not only would later starting times at school benefit teenagers sleeping schedule; Another side effect of school starting later*) and internally (*The same article states; Districts have also noticed*). Appropriate style and tone are generally established and maintained, though there is a brief tone change in the penultimate paragraph from third person (*teenagers don't go to bed early, because its not their nature*) to the second-person, (*Yes, you should do your homework*) to first-person, "leading us to miss out on lessons" that is resolved in the conclusion (*Later starting times makes it possible for students to have better mental health, a positive classroom environment, and give teens the chance to achieve that full nine hours of sleep they need.*)

### 3- Evidence/ Elaboration

The response provides adequate support and includes thoughtful analysis and paraphrasing of the support material (*According to experts, The same article states*). The response consistently cites references (*The author of "High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens" (2007) states*) although the writer only utilized quotes from one of the two articles. An adequate use of precise and general language is evident throughout (*alert to their surroundings, beneficial, affecting the classroom in wonderful ways*). Sentence structure is varied and occasionally complex (*The same article states that teenagers also pay more attention in school and want to learn, because instead of complaining about not being tired and not being able to focus, they are alert to their surroundings and it is easier to pay attention in their classes.*)

### 2- Conventions

While a few errors are present (*minor's*), an adequate use of basic conventions is demonstrated throughout the essay.



## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-2

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 1 of 3)

There is a growing issue that is going on in school districts across the nation. This is a problem that needs to be fixed as soon as we can come to agreement on what we need to do to make our community better and help all of our students thrive. This problem is that many teens are sleepy when they come to school. This may seem like it is not important but it needs to be addressed now and needs to be fixed in a way that helps the students. The start time of schools needs to be delayed in order to help students thrive.

Today in our day and age there is a problem as the children of our community get older, this problem is tiredness. "Teenagers need a lot of sleep - about nine hours each night." Teenagers need more sleep to function in their everyday lives and especially at school. There is a growing concern when it comes to teenagers and school and we need to fix it. Delaying the start time of school would be beneficial to the students at high schools across the country. This could help the students function because studies show that students are more alert if they have even an extra fifty minutes of time. "Students reported less depression when there was a later starting time." This is an amazing because this could lead to less suicide attempts because of stress, and also less dropouts. By delaying the starting time of school would make it so there would have to be less "passing time" for students to get from class to class. After school sports came into play and that is why we would need to cut down the time students take to get from class to class. The number one thing you have to think about when you make this decision is the students, they need to have a later starting time.

Second when we think of our students we have to think of the effect that it would have if we kept the regular start time. When you contemplate this subject you can think about what it would be like if we kept the original starting time. Low attendance, dropouts and kids moving from school to school would all increase if we kept the starting time as it is. Costs if one thing that could cause a bump in the road, which is one reason that we should keep the starting time. "The big issue - the expensive issue - is transportation." This is huge because it would cost our school district money just to get the busses to go at a later time but "some districts, however, have juggled their bus schedules without any additional expense." We are a strong community and we could probably work out the expenses out but even if we couldn't it would be worth it for our schools and our reputation. If we performed better in our subjects it would make our school rank at a higher place and we would have more exceptional student. Attendance might be a small thing but it would make a huge impact on our school and its students.

Besides our students, and attendance we have our parents, we need our parents to support our school to make it the place to be. "Parents reported that their children were easier to live with because their emotions were more regulated." parents are the ones that need to be happy because they support our school so much through the PTA association and many more ways. The happier their children are the more they will think that the school their

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-2

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 2 of 3)

children are going to is a good and safe environment. They want their children to thrive and do the best they can and delaying the time that their teenagers come to school is helping the students and the parents. As the school year goes on the weeks just seem to get busier and one way that helps the parents is delaying the time school starts because if they need to get their children to school it is easier. We have to think about every aspect in this decision but the parents are a big thing to think about, delaying the start time is one way that will make everyone happy.

Throughout thinking about this whole idea you can definitely say that it has been a lot, but you could also say it would not be a bad idea. This would be a good idea not just for test scores but for the health of our future community members. We need this change and it would be for the better, it would be for the better of our students, teachers, and parents. So please think about this decision, We need to make it so our students can do the best they can and that is why you should change the start time to a later time.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-2 Annotation

Score Point 4/3/2

(page 3 of 3)

### 4-Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response is fully sustained and consistently focused. The introduction begins with a strong lead in (*There is a growing issue that is going on in school districts across the nation*), presents a problem (*many teens are sleepy when they come to school*) and establishes a clear claim that is maintained throughout (*The start time of schools needs to be delayed in order to help students thrive*). The response makes effective use of transitions (*Today in our day and age, Second, Besides our students*) and draws conclusions after analysis of the source material (*We are a strong community and could probably work out the expenses out but even if we couldn't it would be worth it for our schools and reputation*). Ideas progress in a logical manner, beginning with student well-being and transitioning into student performance and parent satisfaction. The opposing view is addressed briefly in paragraph 3 (*This is huge because it would cost our school district money just to get the busses to go at a later time*). An appropriate style is generally maintained and the essay ends with a satisfying conclusion that summarizes the main points (*a good idea not just for teen test scores but for the health of our future community members; it would be for the better of our students, teachers and parents*) and restates the main claim (*We need to make it so our students can do the best they can and that is why you should change the start time to a later time*).

### 3- Evidence/Elaboration

This response provides adequate support with references to the support material (*This could help the students function because studies show that students are more alert if they have an extra fifty minutes of time; Low attendance, drop outs and kids moving from school to school would all increase*). Evidence from the source material is relevant, though without citation (*"Teenagers need a lot of sleep- about nine hours each night." "The big issue- the expensive issue- is transportation."*) Academic vocabulary appropriate for the intended audience and purpose is used throughout (*contemplate, thrive, aspect, impact*) and the sentence structure is varied.

### 2- Conventions

While errors are present (*we would have more exceptional student; Besides our students, and attendance we have our parents, we need our parents to support our school to make it the place to be*), an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated over the course of the essay.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-3

Score Point 3/3/2

(page 1 of 3)

There has been a debate of whether school for teenagers should have late start school or early start school in my personal opinion I believe that school for teens should start late, because of many reasons that will show you.

I will start this off from experience of being a teen who has to go to school early in the morning it is not fun especially since I am a growing teen who needs my sleep. This is the worst time to have kids go to school early from my experience because I remember being in elementary and waking up at 6:00 with no problem with it, but now I am in middle school and and I **try** to wake up to wake up at 6:30 key word try! It has been proven that teens need around 9-10 hours of sleep in the passage High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens on paragraph 1 it says “Teenagers need a lot of sleep - about nine hours each night, experts say.” The result of this is that everyone is sleepier at schools which causes problems which leads my to my next statement on the next paragraph.

When people don't get enough sleep the tend to be more grumpy so when teens don't get enough sleep they have that facter against them plus a lot more to deal with like the student are with different people for the next 7 hours in one place which can already be frustrating because they might have someone they don't really like which can end pretty bad. Teens sleep in school more that you think in the passage High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens on paragraph 1 it says “at least 20 percent of high school students fall asleep in class on a typical day.” This just shows why we need to start school later it literally said on a typical day that's crazy, and think about this the teacher also you to wake up earlier just like the students so they might also be in bad mood or tired so the teacher might be frustrated to because they have to try and teach sleepy or even sleeping kids while they are tired and in a bad mood too. This might give you a little picture of how not getting enough sleep and having to go to school, makes it harder for everyone not just students.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-3

Score Point 3/3/2

(page 2 of 3)

Some people might disagree with this because they might think something like “Well school will end later to and don’t want a little amount of time to do my homework or activities like sports? There has already been a solution for this in the passage High Schools Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens it says on paragraph 12 “Another challenge some school districts grapple with is the concern that after-school sports schedules would be affected by starting school later.” “But a solution was found, says Superintendent Mark Wolak.” Later in the passage on paragraph 13 it says “The high school students agreed to shorten the number of minutes they take to get from one class to another.” “The result was that the high schoolers could start school later but end their school day at about the same time, without disrupting the athletic schedule.” Now if you had these worries about that situation here is the solution. In my personal opinion if we get more sleep it would be a lot easier to do the sports and activities without getting tired and when you get tired it is harder to pay attention which affects other programs like speech and debate or mathcounts, and if you are in sports you still need to pay attention at what the coach is saying like if there is a new play he might want to put in, and if you tired you’ll be more lazy with the sport so you won’t work as hard.

I truly believe that school should start later because all of the thing I went over in this essay this, is how I feel and believe that a couple more minutes of sleep could make a big difference to how school can be a better place!

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-3 Annotation

Score Point 3/3/2

(page 3 of 3)

### 3- Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response establishes a position that is sustained throughout the essay (*I believe that school for teens should start late*). The introduction presents this claim sufficiently but does not elaborate effectively (*because of the reasons that I will show you*). Ideas in the essay are often personal in nature and related to the information discussed in the source material.

Transitions are present but not used skillfully (*I will start this off from experience; which leads my to my next statement*). An opposing claim is addressed (*Some people may disagree with this because they might think something like "Well school will end later to and don't want a little amount of time to do my homework or activities like sports?"*) and is rebutted using details from the source material. An appropriate tone is established and a strong voice is occasionally present (*this might give you a little picture; key word try*). The conclusion is sufficient, but vague (*I truly believe that school should start later because of all the thing I went over in this essay*).

### 3- Evidence/Elaboration

This response provides adequate support and elaboration for the claim. Though the student often relies on personal experience (*This is the worst time to have kids go to school early from my experience because I remember, but now I am in middle school; if you tired you'll be more lazy with the sport so you won't work as hard*), relevant references to the one of the two pieces of source material are also included and adequately cited.

### 2- Conventions

Though errors are present (run on sentences, *facter* for *factor*, improper use of commas), an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated over the course of the essay.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-4

Score Point 3/2/2

(page 1 of 2)

Help the tired teenagers! Just look at a teenager in the morning and it's obvious that junior high and high schools need later start times. Junior high and high schools should start later because Teenagers need a lot of sleep and are not getting enough, it can keep kids in school, and it can also help them pay better attention in class.

Teenagers need at least nine hours of sleep each night. The reason that teenagers are like grouchy zombies when they wake up is because they did not get enough sleep the night before. Grouchy zombies are the last thing that anyone wants in their house every morning. To prevent this, schools need to start later to spare parents the misery of having to wake up grouchy zombies. By starting school after the sun has risen, the school can save money on their electricity bill and that money can be added to a teacher's paycheck.

Starting school later can also keep kids in school. Some kids drop out without even graduating high school. One reason that kids drop out is because school starts too early. They do not get enough sleep and they start to see no point in going to a school that requires that they wake up so early. Another reason for kids dropping out is depression and that can also be caused by a loss of sleep.

Due too schools starting too early, most teenagers are too tired to pay any attention to the teacher, especially during first period. They may feel like they are not learning anything. Some teenagers may even fall asleep in class because they are so tired! However there is a downside to schools starting later. Some teenagers may have sports or jobs right after school. Later start time means later end time, and that can make the students late to whatever they have after school. That could mean that they get cut from the team or fired from their job.

Not only will starting school later give teenagers the sleep they need, it will also help them pay attention and keep them in school. Starting school later can keep parents happy, lower depression and drop out levels and keep the students awake and aware. I would encourage you to consider later start times because it is extremely important that teenagers get their sleep.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-4 Annotation

Score Point 3/2/2

(page 2 of 2)

### 3- Purpose/Focus/ Organization

This response has a clear organizational structure that is clearly presented in the introduction. The focus of the essay is sustained throughout and transitions between paragraphs provide adequate clarifications for the ideas presented (*Starting schools later can also keep kids in school, Due to schools starting too early, Not only will starting school later give teenagers the sleep they need, it will also*). The tone and style is mostly appropriate throughout (*I would encourage you to consider, it is extremely important*) and there is a bit of humor (*Grouchy zombies are the last thing that anyone wants in their house every morning*). The opposing claim is briefly mentioned (*However there is a downside to schools starting later*) but is not fully addressed. A sufficient conclusion ties together the ideas within the essay (*Starting school later can keep parents happy, lower depression and drop out levels and keep the students awake and aware.*)

### 2- Evidence/ Elaboration

This response integrates information from the source material without attribution (*another reason for kids dropping out with depression, some kids may even fall asleep in class*). Opportunities to support the position with direct references or quotations were missed. Ideas are presented simplistically and without text support (*By starting school after the sun has risen, the school can save money on electricity and that money can be added to the teachers paycheck*).

### 2- Conventions

While minor errors are present, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated throughout the essay.



## **High School Start Time Essay**

Have you ever woke up for school and felt really tired and you don't want to do anything and then you have to that's how teens feel because teens are supposed to get at least 9 hours of sleep per night because they are in the part of their life where they are growing and they have to get rest.

Teens need sleep most schools make kids wake up around 7:30 in the morning which makes them fall asleep during class and studies show that when teens wake up for school over 20% of them fall asleep during first period.

If students have more sleep than they will come to school with more energy and they won't forget stuff as fast and they won't have to get woke up in the middle of class because they are so tired and they will have more time to get themselves ready for the day and they won't look as depressed and mad and sad and they will be able to enjoy their day and they won't have bad attitudes toward other people.

The last reason they start school later is it is proven to make kids late to their classes less and it also makes it so that less kids drop out of school after high school, High School Starting Later to Help Sleepy Teens says.

So all studies show that people need to let high schoolers start later to help them develop and to help them learn and not drop out, Teens need to sleep school starts at 7:30 AM for most teens that is to early and if teens have more sleep they will come to school with more energy and a better attitude toward everyone around them, and kids will be more successful and more likely to be on time to class and less likely to drop out of school.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-5 Annotation

Score Point 2/2/2

(page 2 of 2)

### 2- Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. There is a partially related claim introduced in the second paragraph (*Teens need sleep*), which is generally developed over the course of the response (*studies show that when teens wake up for school over 20% of them fall asleep during first period; If students have more sleep than they will come to school with more energy and they won't forget stuff, all studies show that people need to let high schoolers start later to help them develop and to help them learn and not drop out*). The introduction encourages engagement but does not establish the author's intent (*Have you ever woke up for school and felt really tired and you don't want to do anything*) and an adequate conclusion summarizes the main points of the essay. No counterclaims are addressed in the response.

### 2- Evidence/Elaboration

This response provides some support from the source material for the claim, but it is mostly unattributed and lacking development. Ideas are expressed simplistically (*they won't look as depressed and made and sad and they will be able to enjoy their day and they won't have bad attitudes toward other people*) and repetitively. In this response, most of the sentences are simplistic or run-on.

### 2- Conventions

While this response contains errors in sentence construction and capitalization, they do not interfere with meaning, and an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated overall.

## School should start later for teens

High school starts WAY too early. The result of this is dozing teens, sleeping in teens, and Irrationally thinking teens. But how can this be fixed?

Well, the answer is simple. Switch the time that elementary starts with the time highschool starts. But how does this help? Well, according to Kyla Wahlstrom, teens need 9 hours of sleep to work properly. Funny enough, the average teen gets 8 hours of sleep, and the time between the two start times is one hour. This bumps the sleep time from 8 hours to 9. Now, what exactly are the benefits of proper sleep? The first one being Mental health. Kyla also stated the fact that much less teens complained about depression, which means that they were happier and readier to learn. She finally explained that "teachers reported that students were more alert and ready to learn." which means that they are learning even more than they used to.

But then transportation. What about those costs? Well, Des Mon county managed to reduce busses in the process of the switch, as well as the saving of an extra \$700,000! Which, according to Kay Rosene, "meant potential cuts in programming or curriculum offerings would not occur". So that means more money for the district.

And to push the idea further, people have complemented the switch troumendously.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-6 Annotation

Score Point 2/2/2

(page 2 of 2)

### 2- Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response has a focused claim (*High school starts WAY too early*) that is insufficiently developed. The introduction addresses a problem (*dozing teens, sleeping in teens, and Irrationally thinking teens*) but does not adequately support the organization of the response. The body of the response focuses on a solution (*Switch the time that elementary starts with the time highschool starts*) and offers text support from the passages. Transitions are weak or repetitive (*Well, the answer is simple; Well, according to; Now, what are; But then transportation*). The conclusion does not adequately support the response (*And to push the idea further, people have complemented the switch troumendously*), which introduces a new concept and does not contribute to a sense of completeness in the response.

### 2- Evidence and Elaboration

This response makes minimal use of source material as support. Direct quotes from one piece of the source material are included and attributed, but the response does not cite the articles. The response provides some evidence (*much less teens complained about depression*) but lacks effective elaboration (*which means they were happier and readdier to learn*). Most sentences are simplistic in construction.

### 2- Conventions

The response includes minor errors in spelling (*benifiets, readdier, finnaly, presses instead of process, troumendously*) but is mainly consistent in punctuation, capitalization, and sentence construction, demonstrating an adequate command of basic conventions.

## High schoolers need more sleep

It's better for high schools to start later. If high schools starts later teenagers will be more alert in class. "and the teachers reported that the students where more alert and ready for learning." The teachers at the schools are saying that it's way better for the kids to be less tired and class and it's better for them to know what's going on in class.

High schoolers are on time more. High schoolers get to their classes on time unlike if school started at a regular time. The students weren't getting to their classes on time. " We found that our students were more on time and in better attendance first period than they had been in the past." with school starting later students are not that late as they used to be.

One problem is the cost of the late starts. The price of the late starts is that it cost more money. "However, early start times aren't going away quickly, and probably won't , because of the costs." Some schools are

managing to change the bus schedules without any additional expense. Some school districts run the bus multiple times in the morning.

Teenagers need a lot of sleep, Sleep helps them concentrate in class. “Teenagers need a lot of sleep - about nine hours each night.” High schools thought it would be a good idea if they started school at a later time. The high schools were right more sleep helps them concentrate in class. The high schooler's attendance has been way better they haven't been as late as they were when school started earlier.

From what i've read I personally think that it is better for teens to start school later. The teens have been doing a lot better when school starts later. They have been to class on time they haven't been dozing off. The teachers even said that the students were more alert in class. The students reported that there was less depression.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-7 Annotation

Score Point 2/2/2

(page 3 of 3)

### 2- Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. The response begins with a claim (*It's better for high schools to start later*) but lacks a clear organizational structure and includes an ineffective introduction and conclusion. An opposing viewpoint is addressed briefly (*One problem is the cost of late starts*) and is weakly rebutted (*Some schools are managing to change the bus schedules without any additional expense.*) Transitions are inconsistent and introduce the idea of paragraphs (High schoolers are on time more. Teenagers need a lot of sleep) but do not connect the ideas throughout the response.

### 2- Evidence/Elaboration

This response makes minimal use of source material as support. Direct quotes are used (*"Teenagers need a lot of sleep- about nine hours each night"*) but appear without attribution or citation and do not provide strong support. Ideas are expressed simplistically and imprecisely (*The teachers at the schools are saying that it's way better for the kids to be less tired; High schools though it would be a good idea if they started school at a later time. The high schools were right more sleep helps them concentrate in class.*)

### 2- Conventions

While this response includes some errors, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated over the course of the essay.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-8

Score Point 2/1/2

(page 1 of 2)

High school should keep starting early.

You wake up tired and exhausted, and you don't want to go to school. You remember last night playing video games till one AM. You could spend your day tired and exhausted or you could set a timer to go to bed earlier. The school is worried about high school kids not getting enough sleep when they shouldn't be worrying. High school shouldn't have "late starts" because high school kids can look after themselves. It wastes time, and they need to learn about being a "grown up"

In high school the kids going there are teens they are responsible or at least they should be with homework and everything. If they can do their homework then they can go to sleep earlier.

Late starts wastes time if we waste time than less learning will get done then we will net be ready for the future.

When we are older we will get a job one that will probably demand us to wake up early and if you complain the job won't pity you they might actually fire you. And



## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-8 Annotation

Score Point 2/1/2

(page 2 of 2)

### 2- Purpose/ Focus/ Organization

This response is somewhat sustained within the purpose, audience, and task. The introduction begins with a scenario (*Have you ever woke up for school and felt really tired*) and introduces a claim (*High school shouldn't have late starts" because high school kids can look after themselves.*) The opposing claim is mentioned briefly and dismissed (*The school is worried about high school kids not getting enough sleep when they shouldn't be worrying.*) An uneven progression of ideas is present (*In high school the kids going there are teens they are responsible or at least they should be with homework and everything; late starts wastes time if we waste time than less learning will get done then we will net be ready for the future.*) The response ends abruptly and a lack of evidence from the source material demonstrates a need for better planning and organization.

### 1- Evidence/ Elaboration

This response does not use source material and provides minimal or irrelevant support or evidence for the writer's claim (*When we are older we will get a job one that will probably demand us to wake up early and if you complain the job won't pity you.*) The expression of ideas is uneven and often unclear (*If they can do their homework then they can go to sleep earlier.*)

### 2- Conventions

While minor errors are present, an adequate command of basic conventions is demonstrated over the course of this draft response.

## Grade 7 ELA Writing - Argumentative

Student-9

Score Point 1/1/1

(page 1 of 1)

i think that schools should start school later because it will allow kids the time to get ready, it can help children especially teenagers to get more sleep, it can also help the school save money.

Starting school at a later time is good because it allows time for kids to get ready and get out the door faster. In article 1 it said that 20 percent of high school students fall asleep in the morning classes. These kids are not getting the required sleep they need. Research done at the u

Student-9 Annotation

Score Point 1/1/1

(page 1 of 1)

### 1- Purpose/Focus/Organization

This response is related to the topic but is too brief to demonstrate knowledge, focus, or organization. The introduction provides a claim that is not developed or sustained (*i think that schools should start school later*). There is no acknowledgement of opposing viewpoints or counterclaims. The introduction does provide a glimpse at organizational structure and the direction the essay may have taken, but the second paragraph ends abruptly and response is incomplete.

### 1- Evidence/ Elaboration

This response includes minimal support and evidence of the claim. Minimal source material is used (*it can help children especially reenagers to get more sleep, it can also help the school save money*) and begins to provide citation (*In article 1 it said that 20 percent of high school students fall asleep in the morning classes.*) However, the brevity of the response does not allow for adequate elaboration or expression of ideas.

### 1- Conventions

This brief response shows inconsistency in capitalization and sentence formation, which does not demonstrate an adequate use of basic conventions.