

Essay #1a (Virtues). Which one is the hardest virtue for you to achieve a balance in, and do you tend to an excess or a deficiency in that characteristic? What strategy(s) could you use to better achieve a balance for yourself? (1,500 characters with spaces)

Topic:
Paragraph 1: Answer State the answer clearly within the first sentence identifying the virtue you find hardest to achieve balance along with outlining which characteristic you have excess or deficiency in.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Paragraph 2: Main Reasons (~250 characters) Identify for the reader 1-2 reasons supporting your reasons for believing that virtue X is hard for you to achieve along with a rationale for your excess/deficiency in a particular characteristic. Show some vulnerability and personal insight here.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Paragraph 3: Supporting Arguments (~400 characters) Use personal examples, life experiences, and extracurriculars to strengthen your case for support; make sure to connect your reasoning with your answer from the initial sentence of your essay.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Paragraph 4: Answer - 'What Strategy?' (~100 characters) State the strategy you have identified that will help you achieve better balance within virtue X.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Paragraph 5: Reasons (~300 characters) Clarify your rationale for believing this strategy will be effective in striking that balance and explain how this strategy will make you less deficient or excessive in a particular characteristic associated with the virtue. If you've already implemented the strategy, say this and explain exactly what you're doing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">
Paragraph 5: Supporting Argument (~350 characters) Wrap up the response by concluding your commitment to executing the strategy, discussing the value to yourself and others by being able to achieve balance in the particular chosen virtue, and any steps you've taken so far towards executing this strategy. If you've already implemented it, how will you continue?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">

Essay #1b (Ravensong). In her 1993 novel Ravensong, author, poet, educator, and member of the Stó:Lō nation Lee Maracle wrote “Where do you begin telling someone their world is not the only one?” What is your interpretation of this line? (1,500 characters with spaces)

Topic:
Paragraph 1: Hypothesis/Answer (~250 characters) Summarize your interpretation of the line in 2-3 sentences. This doesn't have to be written in the “My interpretation of this line is...” format. You can summarize your interpretation more uniquely to really draw in the reader and demonstrate a distinct approach.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••
Paragraph 2: Main Reasons (~400 characters) State a strong reason(s) on why you believe your interpretation to be true and valid. (400 characters)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••
Paragraph 3: Supporting Arguments (~550 characters) Use personal examples, observations, and experiences to strengthen your case for support and connect your reasoning with your answer.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•••••
Paragraph 4: So What? (~300 characters) Restate how your argument supports your interpretation and explain why this textual interpretation is important or brings value in relation to yourself or rest of society.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">••

Essay #2a (Letter). Write a short letter about an issue you care about, addressed to the appropriate political figure for the area of your concern. (1,500 characters with spaces)

Paragraph 1: Hypothesis/Answer (~250 characters)

Simply start by saying "Dear [recipient name], I am writing this letter because ..." and explain the objective behind it or the issue you want to address. In other words, the objective should include the solution to this issue right up-front (or, the "answer" - hence, answer first). If this person isn't well-known, it's wise to add a second sentence indicating the person's position and why they are the person who should receive the letter e.g. "As the [recipient's position] of [recipient organization name], I believe you can help address this issue..."

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Paragraph 2: Main Reasons (~500 characters)

Address the most important reasons why the issue is, in fact, an issue. What are the downsides of this being an issue? Emphasize who or what is impacted. What will happen if we don't solve this? Don't just list out five reasons, choose one or two key reasons and deep dive on those. Try to incorporate something personal about you here and your experience with this issue.

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Paragraph 3: Supporting Arguments (~500 characters)

Elaborate more broadly on supporting points of the 1-2 key reasons above with additional evidence. What's in it for this person if they fix it? In other words, what do they stand to gain? Careful to not sound naive here. Really think about what would restrict them from being able to act on your proposed solution. Do your research on this person. What are their individual goals? Why did this become an issue in the first place? Why haven't they solved it on their own? Why haven't they listened to other people probably proposing a similar solution? Once you do that research, your argument will be more informed. Try to incorporate something personal about you here.

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Paragraph 4: So What/? - Tying Back to Answer (~250 characters)

Conclude the letter, mention your proposed solution again and summarize your reasons and supporting arguments succinctly in 1-2 very sharp sentences. That's it.

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Essay #2b (Education). In her 1954 essay, *The Crisis of Education*, Hannah Arendt says, “Education is the point at which we decide whether we love the world enough to assume responsibility for it.” How does your view of education compare to Arendt’s? (1,500 characters with spaces)

Paragraph 1: Hypothesis/Answer (~200 characters)

Answer the question - summarize how your view of education compares to Arendt’s view in two sentences. Pick out a certain component or characteristic of her view and whether you agree or disagree with it.

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Paragraph 2: Main Reasons (~550 characters)

Explain your answer above, focusing on the key reason(s) behind your view, and why it’s the same or different to Arnedt. Remember to aim for uniqueness and personal insight. What can you tell about yourself through this view without appearing boastful or doing a modest brag?

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Paragraph 3: Supporting Arguments (~550 characters)

Expand on your reasons with the most compelling 1-3 arguments that support your reason above. Demonstrate the depth of your thinking here, that you are willing to think deeply about topics and ideas in much greater detail and exploration than 90% of other people.

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Paragraph 4: So What? - Tying Back to Answer (~200 characters)

Simple conclusion back to your view and Arendt’s view. No more than two sentences.

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Essay #3 (Data Analysis). What do you think 'A' and 'B' could be, and what would your interpretation of the data be in that case? (1,500 characters with spaces)

Paragraph 1: Answer (~250 characters)

State what your interpretation of 'A' and 'B' to be referencing the time elapsed and change in variables from the before and after state.

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Paragraph 2: Main Reasons (~400 characters)

State a strong reason(s) on why you believe your interpretation to be true and valid. Reference the data trends between the before and after state for bar A & B.

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Paragraph 3: Supporting Arguments (~600 characters)

Use observations from your logic tree, table of facts & unknowns, and hypothesis validation tables to support and connect your reasoning with your answer. Use personal experiences or extra-curricular experiences to explain why you interpret the data in one way.

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Paragraph 4: So What? - Tying Back to Answer (~250 characters)

Restate how your argument supports your interpretation of the data labels for 'A' & 'B' ensuring you don't state new hypotheses, but only reinforce what is stated in your original supporting arguments.

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