



Annotated Writing Sample

Response 7 From the "The 2014 GED® Test – Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA) Extended Response Resource Guide for Adult Educators" p. 18	Notes
<p>Between the two positions in this article, the one against Daylight Saving Time is better supported. Although both positions are well organized and supported with several examples, the evidence supporting the view against DST is more specific and thorough.</p> <p>The first position [makes some valid points] ones that are sure to catch any reader's attention. The writer brings up expenses, safety, and crime rates, all of which are supposedly improved through the use of DST.</p> <p>★ However, the evidence he uses to support this claim seems general and outdated. In paragraph four, he mentions that one study took place in the 1970s. He also uses phrases such as "many studies" and "other ★ studies." While the points he makes are interesting, there are no specifics. One is left wondering just how outdated or reliable these studies are, and if they even apply to the average American. Had he used less generalized phrases, he may have sounded more convincing.</p> <p>The second position is much better supported, especially compared to the somewhat lacking arguments of the previous position. The writer's information is precise, and he seems to use more studies than the first author. While the first author used studies from the 1970s, this one mentions a study done in 2007. The specifics of each study also improve the quality and seeming validity of the arguments made. The writer gives the states in which the studies were conducted and the reasons why the researches believed they got those results. Also, like the first author, the issues of which he writes are ones that will catch</p>	<p>The Claim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it debatable? • Is the focus narrow enough for the writing required? • Does it establish the argument? • Is it valid? <p>The Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it support the claim? • Does it include facts or statistics? • Does it include examples? • Is it based on an expert's or the writer's personal opinion? <p>The Warrant </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it explain the pieces of evidence? • Does it connect evidence to the claim? • Is it reasonable? • Does it make assumptions? • Is it logical? <p>The Counterclaim </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the writer include information that disagrees with the original claim? • Is it reasonable? • What is the evidence that

<p>the reader's attention: energy consumption, safety, and confusion.</p> <p>While they are similar to those points brought up by the first writer, this second position is far better supported through its organization and attention to detail.</p>	<p>supports the counterclaim?</p> <p>The Rebuttal ★</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it explain why the counterclaim does not work? • What is the evidence used to support the rebuttal?
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Another Writing Sample

This article presents arguments from both supporters and critics of Daylight Saving Time who disagree about the practice's impact on energy consumption and safety. Both sides provide good support for their position, but the argument against Daylight Saving Time is stronger and more complete. It responds to points made in the argument in favor of Daylight Saving Time and *also* incorporates arguments of its own.

One of the arguments used by supporters of Daylight Saving Time is that because there is more sun at the end of the day, there is less need for electricity and thus energy costs are lowered. A statistic is provided claiming Daylight Saving Time saves "about 1% per day in energy costs". However, that information is from research conducted in the 1970s, which today is fairly outdated. The supporting argument presents data from other research findings on the subjects of car crashes and crime rates, saying Daylight Saving time reduces the number of accidents and instances of crime. These findings are again suspect because the dates of the research are not clearly stated. The accident data is pulled from "three decade of research"; the identities of these decades are unknown. The crime studies are not dated at all.

The argument against Daylight Saving Time is much more credible. For example, it provides the results of a much more recent (2007) study in California. The study showed that Daylight Saving Time "had little or no effect on energy consumption that year", thus countering the argument that Daylight Saving Time lowering energy use. *Also*, the results of "recent" research provide evidence against the supposed safety aspect of the yearly switch to and from Daylight Saving Time; more pedestrians were killed by cars "immediately after clocks were set back in the fall" and significantly fewer were killed the week before Daylight Saving Time ended than the following week.

The best-supported position in this article is the position against Daylight Saving Time. The argument in favor of Daylight Saving Time contains data from outdated research experiments and does not provide any counter arguments to the points made by other position. The argument against Daylight Saving Time contains more credible evidence and it also does a solid job of countering arguments made by Daylight Saving Time supporters.