



STUDENT WRITING SAMPLE – ENG 101 COURSE PLACEMENT

The modern world as we know it is full of technological advancements and conveniences these days that were nonexistent even 5-10 years ago. However, in order to afford these conveniences, many of which are very necessary to survive in a modern world, parents are forced to work many long hours, sometimes commuting multiple hours, just to be able to provide for the family and make ends meet. Parents are now working in fields that require no participation from the teenagers. Today, teenagers aren't required to perform extensive amounts of chores in order to keep up with the family farm or work in the family business. Most teenagers have everything that they need, handed to them. Very few are prepared for entering the workforce just a couple of years shy from adulthood. Some states are noticing this issue and taking to action by requiring teenagers to complete 75-100 hours of voluntary service prior to high school graduation. Volunteer service will provide discipline, a sense of work ethic, and pride in ones work that is otherwise lost or never existent in many teenagers these days.

Teenagers, these days, have fewer responsibilities of them and in turn, far little is expected from them. There is no reason to be disciplined other than to get a decent grade and to finish one's homework. Parents just want their children to do well long enough to "make it to a good college." In order for a teenager to complete 75-100 hours of voluntary service, he will require discipline in the work at hand, and discipline in the

organization of completing these hours prior to graduation. Discipline is required in working any job in any field.

There are far more technological advances as well as mediums of entertainment than there were 10 years ago. A teenager can spend his entire evening watching television, playing games on his or her computer, or even partaking in drugs and alcohol. No one is home to supervise them while they are left alone with a multitude of information and technology at their fingertips. Fewer responsibilities, leaves more freedom, with less consequences in ones actions. The teenager has free reign over the home while the parents work. There is no work ethic in a person that has no further responsibilities aside from just completing one's homework. Poor work ethic leaves the teenager poor preparation for a cutthroat workforce awaiting them in just a few short years after high school or college.

The lack of responsibilities, lack of discipline, and lack of work ethic leaves very little to be proud of in a teenager's life. Aside from finishing the next season of "The Walking Dead" television series, or completing the next level in "Flappy Bird", there is very little for a teenager to feel a sense of pride or accomplishment in something. After you gain discipline and work ethic, you begin to build pride in the work that you accomplish. It is very difficult to be proud of work when little is expected or required from you. Things

that were earned too easily are esteemed too lightly. Pride creates value in one's work, one's causes, the value of the dollar, other people, and especially in one's self.

In conclusion, it is very necessary that teenagers should complete voluntary service in order to graduate high school. They will build discipline, work ethic, and a sense of pride and accomplishment. Without these characteristics, life will only become more difficult for them and the people around them, and society as a whole will not prosper.

ENGLISH PLACEMENT READER ANALYSIS

This essay received an ENG 101 placement because of the following components: a clear and controlling thesis, effective organization, good use of transitions, clear and specific details and examples, varied and complex sentence structure, and few grammatical errors, mainly commas.

