

Problem-Solution Writing

Task: Write a three paragraph “letter” to a major newspaper in your Latin American country in which you discuss a major problem it has and how to solve it.

Expectations

Proper structure

- Introduction with background about the problem, and a clear, powerful thesis placed at end
- Body paragraph with all solution information – most likely an advanced perfect ¶
- Conclusion with restated thesis placed at beginning, a summary of your argument, and a call to action

Strong Supporting Evidence

- Use of only reputable and useful sources to show the problem and support your solution
- Use of quotes, paraphrase, and summary to show the problem and support your solution – at least TWO required
- Evidence is written into the essay using proper signal phrases and sentence structures
- Evidence is cited properly both in-text and in works cited page

Quality Writing

- Writing shows command of MUGS
- Writing is well-organized and easy to follow with effective transitions
- Writing has some sentence style: simple, compound, complex, compound-complex
- Writing is in proper MLA form

Other Considerations

Note Cards: You will turn in 10 note cards: 3 Quotes, 4 Paraphrase, 3 Summary

Source Cards: You will turn in 5 Source Cards (even if you use fewer in your letter)

Signal Phrases: These are nothing more than the phrases you use to introduce your quotes, paraphrases, and summaries. Keep in mind that these must create complete sentences and be sure to check out our online sources for how to do this!

Use of First Person: Because of the nature of the letter to the editor, it is OK to use “I” statements to make your point. This is **NOT** a usual approach in formal research writing but can work very well in a letter to the editor, such as we are doing.

Problem-Solution Writing

Problem-Solution Writing Rubric

Name: _____

	+ = Exceptional	v+ = Good	v = Adequate	- = Needs Work
<p>Structure _____ of 10</p>	<p>_____ Background info as introduction _____ Clear, powerful thesis at END of introduction _____ Body paragraph with suggested solution(s) _____ Restated thesis at BEGINNING of conclusion, followed by summary, and call to action</p>			
<p>Support _____ of 10</p>	<p>_____ Uses reputable and useful sources _____ Uses quotes, paraphrase, and summary from sources (at least TWO required) _____ Evidence is presented using proper signal phrases & sentence structure _____ Evidence is cited properly both in-text & in Works Cited page</p>			
<p>Writing Quality _____ of 10</p>	<p>_____ Writing is free of errors (MUGS) _____ Writing is well organized and easy to follow with effective transitions _____ Writing demonstrates sentence variety _____ Writing is in proper MLA form</p>			
<p>Total _____ of 30</p>				

Other Graded Materials

Cards must be properly created in order to receive credit.

Note Cards: _____ of 10

_____ of 3: Quote Cards _____ of 4 Paraphrase Cards _____ of 3 Summary Cards

Source Cards: _____ of 5