



Emerging | Exemplar Essay

Angela's Ashes

Struggles and Tough Situations



Claim and Focus

The essay does not state a claim about the authors' strategies or devices, and while it attempts to recognize a similarity across the texts ("The stories are about going through struggles and tough situations"), it does not meet the demands of the prompt.



Analysis and Evidence

Details from each text are listed ("the narrator had to keep stealing bread and lemonade" and "The woman... was walking in the windy city") but are not tied to a claim about the authors' techniques or used for the purpose of analysis.



Organization

An organizational structure is not evident as a singular paragraph is used to introduce the essay and list details from each text. The essay is missing a conclusion and inappropriate transitions are used ("In this essay ill talk about," "Right there showed how").



Language and Style

The language is general and does not refer to the domain-specific vocabulary used in the prompt. A formal style is not maintained, and sentence structure is simplistic and fragmented ("The stories are about," "And for The Street it compares").



Using Exemplars in Your Lessons

Exemplar essays are tools to take abstract descriptions and make them more concrete for students. One way to use them is to print the clean copies of the essays and allow students to use the rubric to make notes or even find examples of important elements of an essay - thesis statements, introductions, evidence, conclusions, transitions, etc. Teachers can also use exemplars to illustrate what each score point within a trait 'looks like' in an authentic student essay. For additional ideas, please see "25 Ways to Use Exemplar Essays" by visiting the Curriculum Resources page in Help.

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Struggles and Tough Situations

In this essay I will talk about how the people in the two stories compare to each other. The stories are about going through struggles and tough situations. In the first book the family was poor and the narrator had to keep stealing bread and lemonade. The woman in the other story was walking in the windy city and she was just trying to find an apartment for her family. Right there showed how much poverty the characters were going through. The kids stay strong for the mom when she is dying. And for The Street it compares the wind to stuff trying to bring you down.



Notes
