



Emerging | Exemplar Essay

School Sports

Sports are Important



Claim and Focus

The essay attempts to make a claim. ("Playing school sports can be helpful for students so schools should continue funding.") Rather than extending or building on the claim, this essay focuses on summarizing information from the sources. The narrative does not fully address the prompt.



Support and Evidence

The essay includes unclear information that is referenced in the sources ("If you try hard you could get a scholarship to college"), but has no quoted evidence to back up the claim. The argument offers mainly the writer's opinions without key details to back up the claim, and it does not adequately analyze the sources provided.



Organization

While an introductory sentence is present, it has not been fully developed into a paragraph. The essay lacks transitions and a clear organizational structure, which makes the ideas difficult to follow ("One reason why school sports are helpful is academically").



Language and Style

The language is simplistic and informal ("try hard," "burn calories," and "If you try hard..."). Word choice is unvaried and uninteresting to readers. The sentence structure is predominantly simple, with no attempt at complex structures ("This shows that sports are helpful").



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.

School Sports



Notes

Sports are Important

Are high school sports good for kids? Playing school sports can be helpful for students so schools should continue funding. One reason why school sports are helpful is academically. If you try hard you could get a scholarship to college. This shows that sports are helpful. And sports keeps you healthy and flexible. When you exercise you have the opportunity to burn calories. Burning calories is healthy and helpful. Playing sports can give you confidence and make students have confidence in the classroom. You can get better grades by playing sports. That is why school sports are important to have in school.