

English II: Interpersonal Communications Formative Constructed Response 2014

Research EU 3 (EOs 2, 3, and 5) & Writing EO 3

Directions: The prompt below describes an ongoing concern with self disclosure using online social media. (1) Read the prompt, and take a stance on the issue. You will reveal your stance by constructing an argumentative thesis statement. (2) Then, choose three quotations from the bank of quotations provided that best support your thesis, and explain why these quotations best support your thesis. (3) Those three quotations must cover each persuasive appeal (ethos, pathos, and logos), and you must explain how the quotations illustrate the appeals. (4) Finally, you must select one quotation that represents the opposing viewpoint and explain how you would refute this opposition.

PROMPT: In disclosing information through social media, is there more benefit or more risk?

As online social media has developed over recent years, there has been much discussion and research of the benefits and dangers of self disclosure in the digital realm. Some argue that the benefits outweigh the risks while others caution that the dangers are more significant. Is self disclosure using online social media more risky than beneficial, OR is self disclosure using online social media more beneficial than risky.

Thesis statement:

Disclosing information through social media ~~pro~~
poses much more of a risk than a benefit to today's
society.

Now that you've established an argumentative thesis statement, choose three quotations from the bank that best support your thesis. Remember, you must explain why the quotation best supports your argument, AND you must explain the persuasive appeal illustrated by the quotation.

Quotation #1:

A

Why is this quotation a strong choice to support your thesis statement?

This quotation is a strong choice because it demonstrates
a negative effect of social media — the lack of personal commu-
nication that comes with it.

Which persuasive appeal is illustrated? How?

This demonstrates pathos because it access the feelings that
come with a topic. This quotation says that instead being
with your friends, you can only communicate through
cyberspace. This is a definite negative feeling.

Quotation #2: E

Why is this quotation a strong choice to support your thesis statement?

It shows medical facts/^{ideas} that demonstrate why social media is bad. This is strong evidence for my claim.

Which persuasive appeal is illustrated? How?

This illustrates ethos because it is the appeal of a professional, showing that you can trust the provided information.

Quotation #3:

F

Why is this quotation a strong choice to support your thesis statement?

This is a strong choice because it shows not only how social media can negatively impact the individual but large companies as well. This reinforces my thesis by appealing to many kinds of people.

This illustrates logos because of its use of statistics. It provides a logical basis for the formation of ideas ^{is sound evidence.}

Opposing View Quotation:

D

How does this quotation oppose your thesis statement (or why is this a strong quotation for the opposition)?

This opposes my thesis because it shows the true benefits of social media (opposing my claim of risks) and is from a knowledgeable professor. This would increase my opposer's credibility.

How would you refute this evidence (or what is your rebuttal)?

I would rebuttal by saying that, while it may allow for identity formation, it also allows for falsifying of identities (such as "catfishing" in a relationship) or bullying from those who you may have trusted. This can lead to pain & possible danger for social media users.

RUBRIC

Mastery	Expected	Developing	Novice
Answers thoroughly and effectively meet all of the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argumentative thesis 3 quotations with sound explanations Persuasive appeals identified and explained Opposing viewpoint identified and refuted 	Answers thoroughly and effectively meet 3 of the 4 following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Argumentative thesis 3 quotations with sound explanations Persuasive appeals identified and explained Opposing viewpoint identified and refuted 	Answers thoroughly and effectively meet 2 of the 4 following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Argumentative thesis 3 quotations with sound explanations Persuasive appeals identified and explained Opposing viewpoint identified and refuted 	Answers thoroughly and effectively meet 1 of the 4 following criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Argumentative thesis 3 quotations with sound explanations Persuasive appeals identified and explained Opposing viewpoint identified and refuted

A. And does *disconnect us, since instead of doing something enjoyable such as talking and eating and dancing and drinking with my friends, I am merely sending them little ungrammatical notes and amusing photos in cyberspace, while chained to my desk?*
 Tom Hodgkinson, writer for the *Guardian*, 14 January 2008, article titled "With Friends Like These...."

B. *Clearly, Facebook is another uber-capitalist experiment: can you make money out of friendship? Can you create communities free of national boundaries -- and then sell Coca-Cola to them? Facebook is profoundly uncreative. It makes nothing at all. It simply mediates in relationships that were happening anyway.*
 Tom Hodgkinson, writer for the *Guardian*, 14 January 2008, article titled "With Friends Like These...."

C. Nicole Ellison, PhD, Assistant Professor of Telecommunication, Information Studies, and Media at Michigan State University, stated the following in a Feb. 15, 2008 entry titled "Is MySpace Good for Society? A Freakonomics Quorum," from the Freakonomics blog hosted by the *New York Times*:
In considering the effects of social network sites, it is clear that there are many challenges to work through -- the increasing commercialization of this space, the need to construct strong privacy protections for users, and safety issues -- but I believe the benefits we receive as a society provided by these tools far outweigh the risks.

D. Brendesha M. Tynes, PhD, Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, stated the following in her Nov. 2007 article titled "Internet Safety Gone Wild?," published in the *Journal of Adolescent Research*:
Online social networking can facilitate identity exploration, provide social cognitive skills such as perspective taking, and fulfill the need for social support, intimacy, and autonomy.

E. Susan Greenfield, DPhil, Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Oxford, stated the following in her Feb. 12, 2009 speech to the UK House of Lords:
Social networking sites might tap into the basic brain systems for delivering pleasurable experience. However, these experiences are devoid of cohesive narrative and long-term significance. As a consequence, the mid-21st century mind might almost be infantilised, characterised by short attention spans, sensationalism, inability to empathise and a shaky sense of identity.