

Format for HiSET Essay

For the written response portion of the HiSET Language Arts Writing test you will read two articles debating an issue. You will decide which article presents the best argument and write a response. Basically, you are writing about why you agree with the article. Use evidence (quotes, facts, dates, people, etc.) from the article to support your point of view.

Here is the suggested format for the essay:

Paragraph I. Introduction (3-4 sentences)

- a. State the issue/debate
- b. State what other people think about the issue.
- c. State what you think about the issue.
 1. Tip: “Steal” a quote from the article that names the article and/or author to introduce the issue/debate.

Paragraph II. Opposite Point of View (3-4 sentences)

This brief paragraph acknowledges the opposing P.O.V but does not support it.

-Sentence 1: State the opposing P.O.V that some/many people believe.

-Sentence 2: “Steal” quote from article

-Sentence 4: Why (Tell why you feel that this point of view is wrong.)

Paragraph III. Your Point of View (evidence-based) (5-6 sentences)

Use quotes, facts, dates, experts, etc. from the article to support your P.O.V.

-Sentence 1: State your opinion about the issue/debate

-Sentence 2: “Steal” quote from article

-Sentence 3: Why (Tell why this information supports this P.O.V.)

-Sentence 4: “Steal” quote from article

-Sentence 5: Why (Tell why this information supports this P.O.V.)

Paragraph IV. Your Point of View (real life experience-based) (5-6 sentences)

You will discuss related events/ideas/experiences to the ones mentioned in the article that you've experienced personally related to your opinion on the topic. (You can make up this story.)

- Why (Explain your point of view again)

- Tell your personal story to backup your opinion.

Paragraph V. Conclusion (3-4 sentences)

- Tell what you think

- Tell what others think

- Explain why you are right.