



June 2004 — English Language Arts Grade 10 Training Papers

Reading Comprehension

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A canoe filled with characters of Haida myth and legend paddles to unknown destinations in Bill Reid's bronze masterpiece.

The Spirit of Haida Gwaii—Bill Reid's Masterpiece

by Robin Laurence



Any time of the day or night, in any condition of wakefulness or jet lag, excitement or fatigue, travellers through the Vancouver International Airport can be found gazing at Bill Reid's monumental and complex bronze sculpture, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*. As they dash or saunter¹ between flights, clutching bags and boarding passes, they are caught up by the sight of this other group of travellers—thirteen of them, drawn from Haida myth and legend, crowded into a jade-coloured canoe and paddling toward an unnamed destination.

Near the stern on the starboard side of the canoe is a small human figure, dubbed by its creator "The Ancient Reluctant Conscript²." He is wielding a paddle and wearing a plain cedar-bark cape and an

equally plain hat of woven spruce root. His features are those of the artist who created him, but it is a modest self-portrait. Bill Reid is a much honoured elder, a venerable leader and orator in the great tribe of twentieth-century artists.

The name that Reid has given this character is a reference to "Old Timers," a poem by Carl Sandburg which begins and ends with the line, "I am an ancient reluctant conscript." This identification with a poem from modern Western literature, the casting of the dugout canoe in bronze rather than its carving in wood, its placement in the middle of a busy international airport terminal, the posing of the artist's small self-portrait amongst the oversize creatures and personages³ of indigenous Northwest Coast myth and

¹*saunter*: walk in a slow relaxed manner

²*Conscript*: a person required to enrol in the armed services

³*personages*: important people

legend, the allusions to the classical art forms and styles of those same indigenous peoples, all suggest the widely different histories and cultures, traditions and innovations that Reid has compressed into his art.

Born in Victoria, British Columbia, in 1920, Bill Reid is the son of an American-born father and a Haida-born mother from the village of Skidegate. Skidegate is located at the southeastern end of the largest of a group of islands separated from the northern BC coast by Hecate Strait. Named the Queen Charlotte Islands in 1787 by the captain of a British merchant vessel, they are known to the native inhabitants of the place as Haida Gwaii, the Islands of the People.

- 5 In 1985, Reid was commissioned to produce a sculpture for the chancery of the new Canadian embassy in Washington, DC. Inspired by nineteenth-century

argillite carvings of miniature canoes thronging with animal and human passengers, Reid began to construct a clay model of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* in his Vancouver studio in the spring of 1986. Because of its creative relationship to historic argillite carvings, the first casting of *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii* was given a glossy black patina⁴. Subtitled *The Black Canoe*, it was installed in Washington in 1991. A second bronze casting, painted in blue-green to evoke the naturally occurring jade of British Columbia and subtitled *The Jade Canoe*, was purchased by the Vancouver International Airport Authority, and placed on the Departures Level of the new International Terminal Building in the spring of 1996. It floats there now, a vessel crowded with Haida tales and traditions, silently speaking to travellers from many other tribes, travellers on this other crowded vessel, this blue-green canoe, the planet Earth.

⁴*patina*: the sheen on a surface

The Spirit of Haida Gwaii – Bill Reid’s Masterpiece Possible Responses

The following possible responses are listed to support the use of the *Reading Comprehension – Written Response Rubric*. The suggestions are not complete, and they should *not* be used as a checklist.

- makes connections between the travelers in the canoe and the travellers at the airport
- the exposure of the piece to large numbers of people
- refers to the rich cultural history and diversity of the piece
- the piece appeals to travellers of cultural backgrounds
- the artist’s connection to this region
- the sculpture represents the mythical and cultural history of Haida peoples in BC

Note: Negative responses (i.e., the airport is *not* an appropriate place) may be acceptable answers if thoughtful and supported.

For example:

- An airport is not an acceptable place to display traditional images that have cultural significance for Haida peoples.
- Art belongs in galleries where it can be properly attended to, not trivialized.

Other possible responses:

-
-

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #1

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*? Include references from the passage in your answer.

because the bot is gowing Somewar and Sou are the peopoles in the airport

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #2

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Spirit of Haida Gwaii actually tells the travellers from different places that Vancouver is the right place to settle. Also, as the masterpiece has some relationships with the history, people can feel the warmth coming from Vancouver.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #3

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*? Include references from the passage in your answer.

Any time of day or night, in any condition of wakefulness or jet lag, excitement or fatigue travellers: through the Vancouver International Airport can be found gazing at Bill Reid's monumental and complex bronze sculpture, *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*. The Vancouver International Airport is considered an appropriate place to display "The Spirit of Haida Gwaii" because no matter what time, condition, excitement or fatigue people are always distracted from being rushed in any condition and are busy gazing at Bill Reid's "The Spirit of Haida Gwaii."

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #4

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*? Include references from the passage in your answer.

It is considered an appropriate place because, it is a boat full of travelers, and being in an airport they will be among other travelers. Also they many "speak to other travellers from different tribes on the other crowded vessel, this blue-green canoe, the planet Earth

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #5

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display *The Spirit of Haida Gwaii*? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The VIA would be the place for this painting because the Haida originated in B.C, plus the artist's mother was Haida and they lived on the Queen Charlotte Islands. The artist was also born in Victoria, and if it were to be placed in the Canadian embassy and isn't, I think that it should reside in the Vancouver International Airport.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #6

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Spirit of Haida Gwaii is at Vancouver International Airport because Bill Ried is from B.C., he started the day model in his Vancouver studio, and to show people the Haida beliefs.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #7

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

Canada has a very diverse culture and it is especially important that we show honor and respect to the Natives of Canada. The whole "travelling" aspect of this piece of art tie in perfectly with the airport. I think every traveller stares in awe before they "paddle to an unknown destination."

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #8

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver International Airport is considered an appropriate display for several reasons. One, there is much international travel, and it gives a chance for Canada to display its culture. As is said in the passage, everyone going through the airport notices the statue, and most stop to take a look. As well, it represents much of Canadian culture, and gives many people a look at the beauty we are capable of.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #9

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver International Airport is considered an appropriate place for the sculpture because it resembles, "travellers-thirteen of them," all of the people through-out the airport are also travellers, who may be able to relate to the art. Another bonus involving the sculpture is the way it represents B.C. with it's "bronze casting, painted in blue-green to evoke the naturally, occurring jade of British Columbia."

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #10

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver International airport is an appropriate place for the sculpture because Bill Reid is a British Columbia native, paragraph 4. sentence 1. and it allows the airport to display some of the talent that has come from it's province. The sculpture can also be linked to travellers at the airport; The passengers of the canoe are also travellers, and in a sense, people are always "travelling" to the unknown, paragrah 1 like the ship's passengers.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #11

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver International airport is an appropriate place for the piece of art because it is seen by many different people that pass through. Each person is from different cultural backgrounds. The non-traditional setting and art technique "suggest widely different histories and cultures, traditions and innovations." Each person can enjoy its unique beauty and take something equally unique from it.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #12

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver International Airport is an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii because of the carvings beauty, relevance to the location, and relevance to Canada's culture. The International airport sees many "travellers" each day, so it was very appropriate to place a carving of other "travellers" making their way "toward an unnamed destination". Reid is able to capture much tradition and culture in his sculpture, and the departure terminal is certainly the correct location to place a carving that presents "the widely different histories... cultures [and] traditions " of our wonderful country "compressed into a single display. The Spirit of Haida Gwaii deserves its place in the Vancouver International airport for its captivating beauty, and its relevance to the location and Canada's cultural diversity.

Reading Comprehension — Training Paper #13

17. Why is the Vancouver International Airport considered an appropriate place to display The Spirit of Haida Gwaii? Include references from the passage in your answer.

The Vancouver Airport is a good place for the carving because it is a center, a hub, of the travelling community. When people are rushing everywhere, they are struck by this sculpture and reminded of the sameness of all travellers throughout time and race. The last sentence refers to us as travellers on earth, and the sculpture reminds us of our smallness in the great scheme of things. The West Coast is where the Haida lived, as well, and it seems fitting that this sculpture, inspired by their legends, should be placed nearby.

Rationales for Reading Comprehension Training Papers

Training Paper #1 — Mark: 1

- Too short (no development of ideas)
- Support is absent
- Although the paper makes a connection between travellers in the boat and travellers in the airport, the lack of support does not warrant a higher mark

Training Paper #2 — Mark: 2

- The response demonstrates misunderstanding of the text and the response is irrelevant

Training Paper #3 — Mark: 2

- Response is incomplete as it is a restatement of text
- There is little evidence of relationships

Training Paper #4 — Mark: 3

- Low three
- One-dimensional, unfocused answer
- Support integrated

Training Paper #5 — Mark: 3

- Some understanding only; irrelevant detail and opinion
- No interpretation

Training Paper #6 — Mark: 3

- Solely literal, ideas are often listed
- No interpretative analysis
- Lacks detail

Training Paper #7 — Mark: 4

- No significant errors, well organized and straightforward
- The connection between the two sets of travellers is made
- Some understanding at the inferential level appears in first sentence
- Some support from the text

Training Paper #8 — Mark: 4

- Clearly organized and straightforward
- Goes beyond listing ideas
- Implicit reference is obvious in the middle sentences inferential thinking obvious in final sentence

Training Paper #9 — Mark: 4

- No significant errors
- Many details as references, explicit and implicit
- Some understanding at interpretive level
- This is a minimal 4

Training Paper #10 — Mark: 5

- Connection between travellers depicted in the jade canoe and airport travellers
- Recognition of talented BC artist having work displayed
- Relevant support

Training Paper #11 — Mark: 6

- Interpretation that the many cultures pass through the airport, see many cultures in the canoe
- Link between unusual setting for a piece of sculpture and the unique representation of BC culture

Training Paper #12 — Mark: 6

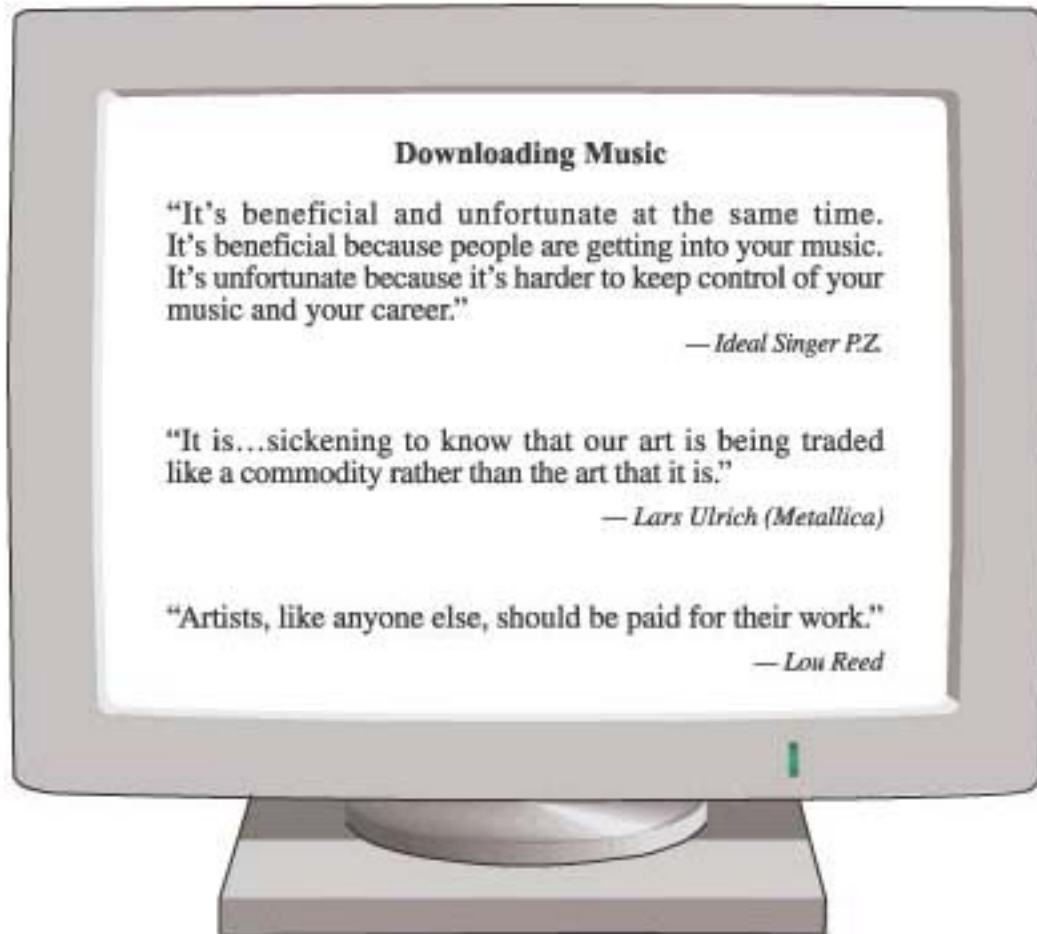
- Skilful use of textual support
- Implicit connection between other cultures being able to see some of BC/Canada's culture

Training Paper #13 — Mark: 6

- Inference about the sculpture as a metaphor for race, time and travel
- Synthesis and use of word 'sameness'
- Implicit, thoughtful support for ideas
- Although there are no direct quotations lifted from the passage, support for ideas is clear and thoughtful

Writing Prompt

“Downloading Music”



While some people feel that downloading music makes the music available to a wider audience and is therefore beneficial, others feel this practice is “theft” as the artists are not paid for their work. What do you think? Is sharing music over the Internet beneficial, harmful, or both?







Write an informal essay on this topic. Give reasons and examples to support your response.

Your writing should be about **five** paragraphs in length.

**Criteria
(Informal Essay)**

“Downloading Music”

Check to make sure your writing:

- clearly states your opinion and comes to a logical conclusion 
- is appropriate for the purpose and audience 
- has fully developed ideas, with relevant supporting details 
- is clear and well-organized, and uses transitions to make connections 
- uses correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, and paragraph structure 
- is revised and edited 

Planning Page
“Downloading Music”

My purpose:
To discuss the topic of downloading music.

My audience:
The teachers who will mark my writing.

| Opening paragraph | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Reasons | Examples |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Concluding thoughts | |

You may detach this page and use it as you work.

Writing - Training Paper #1
"Downloading Music"

I have mixed feelings on downloading music from the internet. I can see many ways that this would be beneficial and also many way it would not be. Many people download music and it has generally become exceptable to do this though that does not make it right.

To repeat what I have said before I strongly feel it is a waste of class time to take this test! We are short on class time in many courses as it is and yet we are expected to waste class time taking a test which may not even be related to the course.

Writing - Training Paper #2
"Downloading Music"

The music industry has been losing money, due to people who download their music. The music industry feel they are begining rob by the people downloading their music, it will so become non-profitable if people will not stop their downloading of music.

Artistes are feel robbed and want to do something about people downloading music, But will millions of users downloading music it will be expensive to counter this music downloading.

Future artist will feel that the music industry will be non profitable because of downloading so not very many artist will feel like moving into the music industry due to theft.

If anyone was to try to stop the theft of music it would be impossible to stop the downloading, it would cost billions of money to track the million of users downloading music.

In conclusion I believe that music theft will be impossible, ratil there is no artister than people will know how much they need music in their lies, so they will no music theft can leed to trouble.

Writing - Training Paper #3
"Downloading Music"

I think downloading music on the internet is a perfectly fine thing to do. Even though it takes away from cd sales, its still better for the people.

Downloading music makes it way easier for people to get ahold of the songs they want. They wont have to go to the store they can just get it on their computers.

Music from the internet saves alot of money because one cd from an artist can cost up to \$20.00. Blank cd's cost about a dollar each so you can save \$18.00 if you use your computer to make cd's.

You also have a way better selection if you download music because you can pick which song's you want, because if you buy a cd there may be alot of songs you dont like So you are wasting your money for songs you dont want.

I think it's okay to download music because most celebrity artists are rich enough.

Writing - Training Paper #4
"Downloading Music"

I think downloading music over the internet is a good thing for us people. It entertains us and best of all, it's free. People share music around the world which is great. Some of the Artists believe that it is a bad idea, and some believe it's a good idea.

Some good ideas are that over the internet, it is possible to send or share music with people from different countries. The artists will become more popular as more people share the songs. They do know that people are getting their music off the internet, but some artists do not care, and others do care. Artists write songs to relax people or sometimes give them something to hear with a certain beat.

Some bad ideas are that some artists are upset that people are getting their music off the internet for free and not supporting them very well by not buying their CD's to help them gain money. When people are downloading music, the artists feel like their losing money instead of gaining. The reason artists are even singing is to help their career and need the people to buy their CD's and support them.

I personally think that people sharing music is a good idea and a bad idea. The good idea I think, is that downloading music from other countries enhances our communication level and technology to do so. The bad idea is that if the people are a fan of an artist, why continue downloading music and getting them for free, rather than help the artists' career by buying their products. Especially when it's a young artist starting off his/her new career in singing.

In conclusion, I think that downloading music is a good and bad idea. Maybe 75% good and 25% bad. I personally love music so I'd say downloading is faster and cheaper.

Writing - Training Paper #5
"Downloading Music"

As computer and internet become more widely known and personalized, music sharing become more popular, too. Although some artists would argue that music sharing is hurting their income, what they do not see, is that their music is presented to a wider audience. This gains them popularity and recognition, and is therefore, beneficial.

Additionally, musicians should view the act of downloading music as a type of free advertisement. As previously stated, music sharing is becoming more and more widely used. It would certainly encourage cyber junkies who never watch television nor listen to the radio, to take notice, and maybe even develop a passion, for music. This type of promotion is far better than spending thousands of dollars investing in commercials on television. Also, it is fulfilling to know, as an artist, that the fans love you not because of your image on the channels, but instead for your true quality of music.

Furthermore, some artists think that people would rather download music off the internet than to buy their cd's. This is not true. Most teenagers would buy the CD of an artist even though they could get the music off the internet for no cost at all. Normally, they would rather spend \$15 - \$20 on the CD rather than download it because they appreciate the music and truly wants to support the artist.

Also, the act of downloading music is beneficial to consumers as well. Through television images or the radio playing only one song from an artist, people could very likely end up regretting buying a CD that's not their type. Through music sharing, they

get to listen to every song on the CD and have a better chance of knowing if they really want to purchase it or not. Artists should not eliminate file sharing because fans could possibly be cheated to waste money on something they didn't want. It is also a disgrace to artists for their CD's to be thrown in the trash can rather than not being bought in the first place at all.

In conclusion, music sharing should be continued because it is positive advertisement, and beneficial to artists as well as their fans.

Writing - Training Paper #6
"Downloading Music"

Music is a form of expression that can be used to manipulate one's mind in both a beneficial and harmful way. Music can determine moods and change mindsets - from encouraging optimism to urging pessimism. Music is used in every culture in their traditions. In the industrial economy we live in today, we have put a price on musical art. This puts restrictions on how, when, where and what type of music we can associate with in our daily lives. With these restrictions, follows people who work their way around the rules, who download music on the world wide web and forget about purchasing CD's. This begins the controversy on the benefits and harms of uploading & downloading Music.

Many believe that sharing and trading files of music is theft and disrespectful to artist. They believe that using the internet as a purveyor, steals the creativity of the musician because it is copy written. The musician ship of a song is maverick to be interpreted when purchased properly, not ripped off with an imitation copy. Furthermore, downloading music reduces record sales and profit of the music companies. If the music industry was to cease profits and go bankrupt, it could very well be by the means of audiences who steal music.

There are some positive points to downloading music, pressure is taken off the performers to promote the music, because the audience has already sampled the music and decided on the fate of the album. Downloading music also reassures the buyer of the contents of the product. It reduces hesitant buyers who fear that the released single is the only reliable track on the CD for the purpose of sales.

While programs like Satelite and Kazaa start up to encourage downloading, software like Napster are sued and shut down because their priviledges where abused. Audiences remain appathetical to the complaints of the artists and continue trading music. There are very few reasons for stealthy listeners to cease downloading music, which is why they are so numerous.

Downloading music is beneficial because it is an easy way for fans to get into the music. It is also cheap and efficient because computers can store many files. A negative to downloading music is the numerous amount of hackers and virus's that can potentially destroy your computer if mistaken as a music file.

Downloading music is something that cannot be stopped. We could look at it in 2 ways - sharing of diverse cultures or disrespecting artists and theft. Either way, I believe that music is a necissity that shouldn't be confined under a label or price tag.

Writing - Training Paper #7
"Downloading Music"

Kazaa is the biggest file sharing program on the internet. It was created by 32 scientists from Estonia, who in four months working on second-hand computers created the single largest file sharing program. Kazaa is downloaded over 14 million times every day, and shares over a billion files to about 4 hundred million people. Without Kazaa, there would be no music "theft".

Bands and groups such as Metallica have complained bitterly about how it costs them money, and about how now they are poor because no one buys their albums. That is not true, people don't buy Metallica's albums anymore because their old and out of date. You don't ever hear other bands or rap artists complaining about the free music, because they are still popular.

I believe that programs like Kazaa are actually good for the music business. I have on average 300-400 songs downloaded on my computer, yet I still buy cd's. The fact is, I wouldn't even know about such bands as "Finch" "Rufio" and "Lagwagon" unless I had downloaded their music. Isn't it better for me to download a few songs, and then go buy the cd because I like the music, rather than not buying it because I don't know who they are, or wasting my money on a band I don't like.

I think that programs like Kazaa should remain, because without them, some bands may remain undiscovered. It doesn't actually cost the bands anything when their music is downloaded, in fact it may actually bring them more money. That combined with peoples unending need for music, will keep music theft alive for years to come.

Rationales for Writing Training Papers

Training Paper #1 — Mark: 1

- Ideas are undeveloped
- Too brief to accomplish the task
- Note: If the bottom paragraph only had been written, it would have received a 0, as it does not address the topic.

Training Paper #2 — Mark: 2

- Ideas are broad generalizations
- Ideas are confusing and repetitive
- Weak sentence structure
- Little understanding of language conventions
- Frequent errors interfere with meaning

Training Paper #3 — Mark: 3

- Ideas are undeveloped and poorly supported
- Limited vocabulary

Training Paper #4 — Mark: 4

- Ideas are straightforward with a lack of sophistication
- Basic vocabulary
- Conversational tone
- Not engaging
- Structure is formulaic
- 5 paragraph expository structure

Training Paper #5 — Mark: 5

- Ideas are fully developed and well supported
- Engages 'generally'
- Well structured
- Language shows control
- Appropriate word choice

Training Paper #6 — Mark: 6

- Powerful introduction
- Clear sense of argument and debate
- Sophisticated writing, shown in effective word choice and transitions
- Meets all the criteria of a 6

Training Paper #7 — Mark: 6

- Original approach
- Ideas are fully developed and supported
- Accomplishes the purpose succinctly
- Purposeful and effective structure