



ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM (EPE) WRITING | SAMPLE RESPONSES

Paragraph Sample I: Weak Response

Task: One-Sided Opinion Paragraph (150-200 Words)

Topic: Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet. Do you agree or disagree?

Write a one-sided opinion paragraph in **150- 200 words** about the topic given below. Your paragraph should include all the elements of a **well-organized paragraph**.

“Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet.”

Do you agree or disagree?

I agree with this topic. Because in the past many people has library in their school, work or house. Some book or dictionary can be heavy so people do not want bring them wherever they go. However if they read a book by using the internet on their phone, tablet or laptop. People can be feel more comfortable. Because phone or tablet is not heavy. At the same time people read different book if they download in the phone

(Word Count: 79)

The paragraph contains several major weaknesses that significantly affect its overall quality. In terms of **content**, it is not within the required word limit and fails to develop the stated opinion with sufficient supporting ideas, relying on limited and repetitive reasoning. Regarding **organization**, the paragraph lacks a clear structure, as ideas are not logically connected and appropriate transition signals are mostly absent, which results in weak coherence. **Language use** presents the most serious problems, with frequent grammatical errors such as subject–verb agreement (“many people has library”), incorrect verb forms (“People can be feel more comfortable”), missing infinitive markers (“do not want bring them”), and incomplete sentences (“However if they read a book...”). These errors often cause breakdowns in communication. In addition, **mechanical issues**, including incorrect sentence separation (“I agree with this topic. Because...”), further reduce readability. Overall, weaknesses in content development, organization, and language control prevent the paragraph from effectively fulfilling the task requirements.

This response demonstrates a weak performance and is awarded **2.5** points.



Paragraph Sample II: Moderate Response

Task: One-Sided Opinion Paragraph (150-200 Words)

Topic: Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet. Do you agree or disagree?

Write a one-sided opinion paragraph in **150- 200 words** about the topic given below. Your paragraph should include all the elements of a **well-organized paragraph**.

“Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet.”

Do you agree or disagree?

I don't agree with this because we shouldn't forget our old options and we should live with these options. Some young people believe that libraries are unnecessary because there are a lot of information in the internet. In my opinion, it is not true for some reasons. First reason is that many people are studying or doing homework in library because they cannot work in their houses. Libraries are very quite. Second reason is that there are a lot of book in library. I think online books are not as good as real books. You should touch their peaper. Finally, there are some employee in library. I think young people should not ignore them because these workers are earning money thanks to library. As a result, in my view, libraries are not unnecessary in the age of the internet.

(Word Count: 139)

The paragraph partially meets the **content** requirements by addressing the prompt and providing three distinct reasons, but it falls short of the word count and includes some slightly irrelevant points, such as the focus on employees' salaries. While the **organization** is logical and uses clear transition signals like "First reason" and "Finally," the message is occasionally repetitive. Regarding **language use**, the student demonstrates an acceptable range of vocabulary but makes several grammatical errors, including subject-verb agreement (e.g., "there are a lot of information,") and spelling mistakes (e.g., "quite" instead of "quiet," "peaper" instead of "paper"). However, these errors do not cause a total breakdown in communication. The **mechanical structure** is strong, as the student uses appropriate capitalization and punctuation throughout, making the text easy to read.

This response demonstrates a moderate performance and is awarded **6.25** points.



Paragraph Sample III: Strong Response

Task: One-Sided Opinion Paragraph (150-200 Words)

Topic: Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet. Do you agree or disagree?

Write a one-sided opinion paragraph in **150- 200 words** about the topic given below. Your paragraph should include all the elements of a **well-organized paragraph**.

“Libraries are unnecessary in the age of the internet.”

Do you agree or disagree?

Libraries are not essential in the age of the internet because we can access everything easily, and if not, it is a waste of our time. Therefore, I agree with the idea that libraries are unnecessary in today's world. First of all, internet is faster than dictionaries or hard copies because we can find the information easily with just one click. However, it is hard to find the information in the libraries because you should look up the books to find the information. Secondly, books or other kinds of resources take much of our time than the internet because firstly you should go to a library and ask a staff to get permission to use the computer, and this can make you tired. However, you do not need to go somewhere to get permission. You can just open the internet and write your needs. In a nutshell, I believe that libraries are not crucial in the age of internet due to accessing everything hardly and not saving our time.

(Word Count: 169)

The **content** of the paragraph is very strong and successfully addresses the prompt with clear, relevant arguments. The **organization** is excellent, as the ideas follow a logical progression and the student effectively uses cohesive devices such as "First of all," "Secondly," and "In a nutshell" to guide the reader. Regarding **language use**, the student utilizes a good range of vocabulary and complex structures, although some minor inaccuracies in word choice or phrasing, such as "accessing everything hardly", prevent a perfect score in this category. Finally, the **mechanical structure** is perfect, with correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation throughout, contributing to the overall clarity and professional tone of the response.

This response demonstrates a strong performance and is awarded **9.25** points.



Essay Sample I: Weak Response

Task: Five-Paragraph Cause and Effect Essay (250-300 Words)

Topic: What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Write a cause and effect essay in **250-300 words** on the following statement. Your essay should have **FIVE PARAGRAPHS** (an introduction with a clear thesis statement, well-developed body paragraphs, and a clear concluding paragraph), including both **CAUSES** and **EFFECTS** of the given topic.

What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Many teenagers use social media every day. They spend a lot of time on computer or phone. That's why using heavy social media has some causes and effects.

Firstly, teenagers interested in internet, social media. If teenagers use heavy social media, they can be addicted and they can be fat. They always want to use social media. For example, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or TikTok. Because they feel comfortable. They do not need healthy food. They don't need real holiday. For example, Umrah, Greece or Holland. In addition, they see different rich, rate and famous life. That's why they can feel poor and sad.

Secondly, school is very important for teenagers. But some teenagers using smart phones in the class because they wonder social media news, famous and rich people's lives. That's why they can't focus their lesson and they might be fail the exam.

There are some effect about these causes. Teenagers' family teach them how they can use the social media, they might be feel good.

To sum up, there are many causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers. If they use social media from smart ways they can be successful and feel more happy.

(Word Count: 199)

The essay contains several major weaknesses that significantly affect its overall quality. In terms of **content**, it does not meet the required 250–300 word limit and fails to develop the topic of heavy social media use with sufficient support, relying on brief and repetitive statements rather than clear cause–effect explanations. Some examples, such as becoming “*fat*” or feeling “*poor and sad*,” are mentioned but not adequately explained or logically connected to the main argument. Regarding **organization**, although a five-paragraph structure is attempted, ideas are not clearly sequenced, topic sentences lack clarity, and transition signals are mostly absent, resulting in weak coherence. **Language use** presents serious problems, including missing auxiliary verbs, incorrect verb forms, subject–verb agreement errors, and unclear phrasing, which often interfere with meaning. In terms of **mechanical structure**, issues such as punctuation errors and poor sentence construction further reduce readability. Overall, weaknesses in content development, organization, and language control prevent the essay from meeting the requirements of an academic cause-and-effect writing task.

This response demonstrates a weak performance and is awarded **5.5** points.



Essay Sample II: Moderate Response

Task: Five-Paragraph Cause and Effect Essay (250-300 Words)

Topic: What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Write a cause and effect essay in **250-300 words** on the following statement. Your essay should have **FIVE PARAGRAPHS** (an introduction with a clear thesis statement, well-developed body paragraphs, and a clear concluding paragraph), including both **CAUSES** and **EFFECTS** of the given topic.

What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Have you ever use social media? In today's world, everybody use social media but teenagers always in social media. Some people believe that social media is very useful. I also believe that but if it is in enough time long times are harmful. There are several causes and effects or heavy social media use among teenager.

First cause is that some teenagers want to meet new people and there are so many people in online games or another social media platform. They believe that if they use social media, they can find new people. They spend long times thatnks to this opinion.

Second cause is that. Some teenagers want to learn new languages so they are playing video games and use social media because there are many foreign poeople in these games and teenagers can speak in these games.

Effects or heavy social media are that teenagers are decreasing face to face communication with their family or friends and their eyes are broking thanks to social media. And teenagers sometimes influence something.

In conclusion, teenagers use social media for different reasons, but heavy social media has deep impact on teenagers. I think their family should speak about this issue.

(Word Count: 199)

The **content** of this essay partially addresses the prompt by identifying specific causes and effects, but the ideas lack the necessary depth and expansion for a five-paragraph academic essay. While the student attempts to provide reasons like language learning and meeting new people, the development is uneven, and the overall length falls short of the 250-300 word requirement. The **organization** follows a basic structure, including an introduction and conclusion, but the transitions between ideas are somewhat weak, and the body paragraphs are not sufficiently developed to form a cohesive argument. In terms of **language use**, the student relies on basic grammatical structures with several noticeable errors, such as "everybody use," "eyes are broking," and "long times", which occasionally impact the clarity and formality of the writing. Additionally, the **mechanical structure** shows a moderate level of proficiency; while the message remains understandable, frequent spelling and punctuation mistakes detract from the essay's professional quality.

This response demonstrates a moderate performance and is awarded **7.25** points.



Essay Sample III: Strong Response

Task: Five-Paragraph Cause and Effect Essay (250-300 Words)

Topic: What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Write a cause and effect essay in **250-300 words** on the following statement. Your essay should have **FIVE PARAGRAPHS** (an introduction with a clear thesis statement, well-developed body paragraphs, and a clear concluding paragraph), including both **CAUSES** and **EFFECTS** of the given topic.

What are the causes and effects of heavy social media use among teenagers?

Nowadays, there is a massive issue about heavy social media use in the world, especially among teenagers, and it is going to get worse in the future. Therefore, heavy social media use is primarily caused by engrossing videos, feelings of loneliness, non-toxic relationships, and this leads teenagers to become addicted, antisocial individuals, and make fake relationships in social media.

Primarily, one of the biggest causes of heavy social media use is engrossing videos. This is because of the algorithm. When we like a video or a photograph, it directly shows the same theme of videos and we watch the videos without thinking. As a result of this action, social media users, especially young generations, become addicted dramatically. For instance, a recent survey demonstrated that two-thirds of teenagers cannot live without social media respectively.

On the other hand, another cause of using social media among teenagers is feelings of loneliness. Most of the young generation feel alone in their life due to their traumas, and this leads many teenagers to face depression and lack of interaction with others. For example, a recent research showed that 24.3 percent of the teenagers face depression more than they used to be.

What is more, third cause of heavy usage of social media among young generation is toxic relationships. Toxic relationships have a massive impact on teenagers' well-being. This is because peer pressure leads victims to be silent. Therefore, victims show themselves in social media and make relationships with others who have the same experience in their life. As a result, they make fake relationships in social media.

Taking all these into consideration, we can say that there is a huge issue about heavy social media use among teenagers. This is caused because of feeling alone, attractive videos, and peer pressure, and this leads to antisocial individuals, social media addiction, and fake relationships in social media.

(Word Count: 311)

The **content** of this essay is exceptional, as it fully addresses the prompt with sophisticated and well-developed ideas, specifically highlighting causes like algorithms and peer pressure. The student provides relevant examples and data, ensuring a high level of academic expansion without repetition. **Organizationally**, the essay is excellent; it follows a clear five-paragraph structure with a strong thesis statement and uses effective transitions like "Primarily," "On the other hand," and "Taking all these into consideration" to create a logical flow. While the **language use** is generally strong and demonstrates a wide range of vocabulary, it received a slightly lower score because of occasional inaccuracies in phrasing and word choice, such as "make fake relationships" or the slightly misused "respectively" in the second paragraph. However, these minor issues do not hinder communication. Finally, the **mechanical structure** is nearly perfect, with accurate spelling and punctuation that ensure the essay remains professional and highly readable.

This response demonstrates a strong performance and is awarded 9 points.