

Model C

argumentative, expository, narrative

Level of Blending: The writing smoothly and effectively blends at least two genres (argumentative, expository, and/or narrative); blending is well thought out and purposeful.

Prompt: Your city council is debating whether to enact a strict “no texting while driving” law in your city and has scheduled an open meeting during which citizens may share their thoughts on the proposed law. Using a blend of two or three writing genres (choose from expository, argumentative, narrative), write the text you would read to the council at the open meeting to present your thoughts on the proposed law. Integrate material from the two sources available to you with your own thoughts and/or experiences.

For the purpose of this example, the student response below was evaluated only on blending.

When it comes to the twenty-first century, our society is solely dependent on mobile technology. Fifty years ago, walking around outside of your house on a telephone instead of being glued to the home office was but a dream. Now we live in a world that is more connected than ever before in the history of time through the cell phone. Not only can we call and text people thousands of miles away, but we have the ability to be instantly entertained through mobile social media, news, games, and music selection anytime we want. The key words are “anytime we want.” Is “anytime we want” really beneficial when it comes to our health and safety on the highway? Has our generation been so sucked into instant gratification that we must check Facebook while flying seventy miles per hour across a potentially dangerous highway? Can a simple status update wait until the car engine is not in motion? These are all issues that our society deals with today, threatening the lives of innocent citizens on the road. Enacting a “no texting while driving” law in Jefferson City will be extremely beneficial to the safety of the community and anyone who visits by reducing the number of car accidents and promoting greater awareness and self-discipline upon generations to come.

Essentially, one of the benefits of enacting a “no texting while driving” law will greatly lower the number of car accidents. When it comes to mobile technology in America, about “660,000 drivers are using cell phones or manipulating

Expository

Explanation of how technology has affected

Argumentative

Rhetorical questions

Expository

How texting and driving can affect people

Argumentative

Thesis

Argumentative

Makes claim

electronic devices while driving, a number that has held steady since 2010," according to NOPUS. As that is a huge number, according to the NHTSA, "ten percent of all drivers 15 to 19 years old involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crashes. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted at the time of the crashes." Ten percent of all teens involved in fatal crashes is a large number that can easily be taken down by enacting a "no texting while driving" law. While it might take a couple years to fully affect the citizens, this law will no doubt save many lives and lots of money.

Another benefit of enacting a "no texting while driving" law is promoting awareness and self-discipline for the generations to come. With the cell phone craze being a big part of our society, the CTIA records that "as of December 2014, 169.3 billion text messages were sent in the US (includes PR, the Territories, and Guam) every month." An extreme number of texts were sent, and it must be even more difficult for people to not send a single text while driving. While the general public might not favor a "no texting while driving" law being passed, it will surely help people have better self-discipline and be aware of how texting and driving really is a huge danger. People can learn that sending texts after driving is so worth it; "text messaging makes a crash up to twenty-three times more likely," according to textinganddrivingsafety.com. If these statistics are promoted consistently and the public gets an idea of why it is a bad idea to get distracted while driving, then the law will prove effective.

Passing a "no texting while driving" law will assuredly bring down the number of car accidents and will help promote awareness and self-discipline. Most people have been guilty in the past of making the mistake of looking at their phone while driving; nobody is perfect. With a law like this getting passed, it will no doubt bring together people in awareness of not texting and driving and give everyone a wake-up call. This law will make Jefferson City a much safer place. In the attempt of the "no texting while driving" law being passed, hopefully everyone as a whole will consider the responsibility of not driving distracted.

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Importance of evidence

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Explains relevance of evidence and links it back to thesis

Argumentative

Makes claim

Expository

Relevance of topic to audience

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Discusses evidence; links evidence to claim

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Reflection over use of evidence

Argumentative

Claim; empathy with target audience; closing thoughts/opinions

Blending is smooth and effective: Introductory and body paragraphs weave equal amounts of argumentation and exposition to make the case in support of the thesis.

Blending is well thought out and purposeful: Discussion and elaboration enhance the evidence.