

Model D

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.

Ten broken bones, one skull fracture, and one death. Those were the extent of the injuries that seventeen-year-old Courtney caused by sending one three-worded text. It had been a normal summer day for Courtney as she headed out to meet her friends by the pool. Just after merging on the highway, Courtney reaches over to tell her friends, “I’m almost there,” when she slightly swerves into the next lane and bumps the next car. Both cars crash, and while Courtney escapes with some minor injuries, she ends somebody’s whole world in the next car. According to NHTSA, one in ten teenage wrecks are due to texting and driving. Due to the increasing likelihood of a texting and driving related crash, and the money the city could collect from this new law, there should be stricter no texting and driving laws, even though some teenagers and more experienced drivers may disagree.

Narrative

Elements of plot;
suspense; conflict

Argumentative

Evidence; thesis;
acknowledgement of
counterclaim

Sadly, heartbreaking stories like Courtney’s are hardly rare. From 2014 to 2013, the rate in which a young drivers were texting and driving increased from 1.7% to 2.2%. This drastic increase continues to happen at an alarming rate as climbing numbers of teenagers are more comfortable with texting and driving. In 2014 alone, there were 3,179 deaths from texting and driving crashes. These deaths could have easily been prevented. If the city were to pass a stricter law against texting and driving, so many lives could be saved just from doing the

Narrative

Reference to opening story

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Reflection over evidence
and need for law

right thing. It is morally unjust to have a law that could save people's lives and to not enact it.

Everyone knows about traveling into a certain county where police officers target the highways for someone who is barely speeding just to collect a ticket. While to some this may seem unfair, the city collects the money from the ticket and everyone makes sure to drive expertly. This same idea could be applied to the no texting and driving law. Police will now be able to pinpoint drivers who are risking lives to answer their best friend back immediately. If drivers receive a ticket for this, they are less likely to text and drive the next time. The city will have a new law to collect money from, and drivers will learn a very valuable lesson before it is too late. This law will not only save lives but will also become beneficial to the community as a whole.

Some people may disagree with this law because they think they are "too good of a driver" but this is simply not true. Everyone thinks they are a good driver until they are not one anymore. According to NHTSA, drivers in their twenties make up about twenty-three percent of all the fatal car crashes. And about thirty-eight percent of those crashes were reported to have come from using a cell phone. This proves that even a more experienced driver is equally likely to crash a car from texting and driving. This law is desperately needed not just to help the youth of this city but also to help everyone correct a new bad habit of always answering the phone.

Cell phones are becoming an increasingly vital part of our community. As this trend continues, this city needs to be ahead of the trends by enacting a strict no texting and driving law. This law has the potential to save countless lives and teach all drivers the consequences to texting and driving without somebody dying. Because of these reasons, it would be irresponsible and dangerous of the city council to ignore the statistics and continue to allow people die. A single text is not worth a person's life, and this law will be the first step in making a real change in the statistics.

Expository

Presentation of steps in a process

Argumentative

Acknowledgement of counterclaim

Argumentative

Evidence

Expository

Explanation of relevance of evidence

Argumentative

Opinion

Argumentative

Closing points

Blending is smooth and effective: For the most part, each paragraph blends two genres to make the overall argument flow.

Blending is well thought out and purposeful: Writer combines narrative and/or exposition with argumentative elements to build a stronger argument.