

Model H

argumentative, expository, narrative

Level of Blending: The blending is adequate and generally 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.

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person’s attention away; in the article Facts and Statistics it says that drivers who are in their twenties are 38 percent of the distracted drivers who use their cell phones in fatal crashes. The City Council should have a strict “no texting while driving” to reduce the number of fatalities and car accidents.

Expository
Definition

Argumentative
Evidence; thesis

Distracted driving is very dangerous to pedestrians, passengers, and the people driving. In *The Hillary Coltharg Story*, a twenty-six year old woman was traveling eastbound to meet her family for dinner at Kentucky Lake when she got into a car accident and never made it to her destination. She never made it to her destination because she got distracted by her phone and started texting when then caused her to lost control, cross the median, and roll three times before she was ejected 75 feet from her car; she then landed on her head in the emergency lane of westbound I-24 which gave her a skull fracture and severe brain trauma, while also suffering a collapsed lung and multiple broken bones. She has spent five years in and out of hospitals and when she is at home it is always filled with therapy she no longer has time to play with her son, party with her friends and family at the lake or working in a hair salon. The Kentucky Office of Highway Safety made a public service announcement called “One Text or Call Could Wreck It All” as part of Distracted Driving Awareness Month and for Hillary to tell her story to the world.

Expository
Basic fact

Narrative
Elements of plot; conflict

Expository
Fact to accompany narrative

In Kentucky approximately 25 percent of the roadway fatalities and 40 percent of injuries were due to distracted drivers. In the article Facts and Statistics it states that in 2014, 3,179 people were killed and 431,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers. This article also stated that approximately 660,000 drivers are using cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving and it has been that number since 2010. As of December 2014, 169.3 billion text messages were sent in the U.S every month. Text messaging requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention which is a far more alarming distracting. It takes an average of five seconds to text while on the road and when you are traveling at 55 miles per hour that is enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded. In a 2015 survey by Erie Insurance says that they have had reports of drivers doing many crazy things while driving, they also found out that one-third of drivers did admit to texting while driving and three quarters saying that they have seen others do it. When being a distracted driver, it is not always texting that is the distraction, some other distractions would include: watching a video, grooming, eating and drinking, talking to passengers, changing the station on the radio, or even brushing your teeth. The best way to end distracted driving is to educate people about the dangers it poses.

Argumentative
Evidence

Expository
Examples to illustrate
distracted driving

Having the strict “no texting while driving” would be a good law to have to lower injuries and fatalities in the city, and it would be even better to make it a law everywhere. All you have to do is put down the phone or whatever is in your hand and focus on driving, focus on getting to your destination alive because nobody wants to get that call saying you have been injured in a car accident or even worse.

Argumentative
Restatement of thesis;
closing points

Blending is adequate: Three of the four paragraphs blend two genres; genres are placed in “chunks” instead of smoothly woven together.

Blending is generally purposeful: The genres paired in each paragraph have connected, related ideas.