

## Student Sample C

### Grade 7 Argument Writing Performance Task: Social Media

#### SCORES AND COMMENTARY

- **Bold** word and phrases are taken from the Student Language Writing Scoring Guide: Grades 6-8 Condensed Version for Informative/Explanatory and Argument Writing and Research Papers.
- *Italicized* words are direct quotes from the student writing.

#### Ideas and content 5

**Purpose and main ideas are very clear and focused.** *In my opinion, social media websites should keep limitations on free speech. Without these limitations, users may feel uncomfortable or unwelcome. A counterclaim is clearly stated* at the beginning of the second paragraph and is followed with **relevant evidence. Accurate, credible sources are used to demonstrate understanding of the topic or text.** *In the article, “Facebook Policy” Marne Levine, it tells... Other social media website may have limitations placed on [Indecency, defamation, profanity and copyright]” (2).*

#### Organization 5

**Organization and order of ideas and details are well-structured and easy to follow. The introduction is strong, and makes the reader want to keep reading. A variety of transitional words and phrases** (e.g., *In my opinion... Many may say... In the article... Though social media sites should put limitations... Without limitations of free speech on social media*) **are used effectively. The conclusion is strong and clearly supports the claims, arguments, information, and explanations presented.** *Without limitations of free speech and social media, a lot more illegal activity, bullying, and threats could happen. This could not only make users uncomfortable, but put them in danger as well. Though many may argue that they should be able to have free speech on social media, it does cause dangers to other users, because not all speech is unharmed, and not all speech should be ‘free’.*

#### Voice 4

**The writing maintains a formal style.** *They remove these to not only make people feel safer and more comfortable, but also to stop people from breaking the law. The writer seems committed to the topic. The writing is sincere and honest* (score of 4), **but not lively or exciting** (score of 5). This paper is not a 5 in voice because **the topic does not come to life.**

#### Word Choice 4

**Words communicate meaning, but may not energize the writing. Domain-specific words are used along with words that are functional and precise.** Most of the domain-specific words are direct quotes from sources and not generated by the writer. **Words have variety. Many difference words** (e.g., *uncomfortable, unwelcome, argue, concerned, unharmed*) **are used.**

### **Sentence Fluency 5**

**The writing has an easy flow and rhythm. Sentences glide along with one sentence flowing smoothly into the next.** *Throughout the course of any years, many students have gotten in trouble in school for something they posted on their private account after school hours... Without limitations on free speech on social media, a lot more illegal activity, bullying and threats could happen.* **Strong and varied structure makes oral reading easy and enjoyable.**

### **Conventions 5**

**Sentences are complete and have correct punctuation. There are no run-ons, comma splices, or fragments.** *In the article, 'Do Students Still Have Free Speech in School?' it tells the readers about a case where a 13-year-old girl was suspended for wearing an armband to protest the Vietnam War in 1965.* **Capital letters are correct. Few errors.** *Though social media sites should put limitations on free speech, this should not be concerned for in schools.* **Needs little editing.**

### **Use of Sources 5**

**The writer uses relevant information from several sources. Multiple credible print and digital sources are used.** Four sources are listed at the end of the essay. **All sources are correctly cited with in-text documentation.** *This prohibits "words that would encourage hatred or violence" (2) and "speech would encourage others to engage in illegal activity" (2).* A bibliography page was not required for this task.