Ninth Grade Literature and Composition

English Language Arts

Item and Scoring Sampler:

Reading and Evidence-Based Writing Item Set

2020
RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE-BASED WRITING ITEM OVERVIEW

The Georgia Milestones Ninth Grade Literature and Composition End of Course (EOC) assessment is a criterion-referenced test designed to provide information about how well a student has mastered the grade-level state-adopted content standards in English Language Arts (ELA). These assessments consist of a variety of selected-response, technology-enhanced, constructed-response, extended constructed-response, and extended writing-response items.

The Reading and Evidence-Based Writing (REBW) portion of the assessment is administered as the first test section. When responding to the REBW portion of the assessment, students read a passage set consisting of two informational passages and then respond to five test items about the passages. The five test items comprise three selected-response items, one two-point constructed-response item, and one seven-point extended writing-response item. The extended writing-response item requires students to write an argumentative essay or an informative/explanatory essay based on the passage set. Technology-enhanced items and extended constructed-response items do NOT appear as part of the REBW portion of the assessment.

Both the REBW two-point constructed-response item and the REBW seven-point extended writing-prompt item are passage-based item types, which are paired so as to draw upon the same text or texts. Considered “on-demand writing in response to text,” students write their responses in a somewhat limited amount of time, without the benefit of revision and rewrites. For this reason, the scoring process takes into account that the student responses are viewed as first drafts and are not expected to be final, polished papers.

The main focus of an REBW two-point constructed-response item is reading comprehension. Responses are scored on the basis of the quality of the student’s answer to a question and the strength of support drawn from the text(s). Students are not penalized for grammatical errors. The scoring process rewards students for what they do well according to the item-specific scoring rubric.

REBW extended writing prompts assess two modes of student writing. Informational prompts ask students to respond to a question in a well-developed informative/explanatory essay that examines a topic in depth and presents relevant information based on text as a stimulus. Argumentative prompts ask students to respond to a question in a well-developed argumentative essay that presents an opinion and supports claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence based on text as a stimulus. The scoring process rewards students for what they do well according to the mode-specific two-trait scoring rubric. The two assessed traits are ideas (scored on a 1- to 4-point scale) and conventions (scored on a 1- to 3-point scale), each with a separate rubric. Within the ideas trait, students are not penalized for errors unless they permeate the response and severely interfere with understanding. Within the conventions trait, the severity and frequency of grammatical errors contribute to the student’s score.

This Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Reading and Evidence-Based Writing Item and Scoring Sampler contains a sample REBW set along with an overview of the item specifications found within the set. Each item included in this sampler has been through a rigorous review process with Georgia educators to ensure alignment with the content standards.
PURPOSE OF THE SAMPLER

The purpose of this sampler is to provide a released REBW item set that appeared as operational items in the Georgia Milestones ELA assessment. The extended constructed-response and extended writing-response items each include at least three sample student responses for each score point as well as an annotation explaining why each response received that particular score.

Additional samples of REBW item sets, including those that are in response to different types of passages, are available in the Assessment Guide and Study Guide.

The items in this sampler may be used for classroom instruction purposes. The samples may be copied, and classroom teachers may find it beneficial to have students respond to one or more of the samples. Teachers can then use the information in this sampler as a guide to score responses written by their own students.

REBW ITEM TYPES

A selected-response item, sometimes called a multiple-choice item, is defined as a question, problem, or statement that appears on a test followed by several answer choices, sometimes called options or response choices. The incorrect choices, called distractors, usually reflect common errors. The student’s task is to choose, from the alternatives provided, the best answer to the question posed in the stem (the question). The ELA selected-response items will have four answer choices.

A constructed-response item asks a question and solicits the student to provide a response constructed on his or her own, as opposed to selecting a response from options provided. On the Ninth Grade Literature and Composition EOC assessment, these items are worth two points, and partial credit may be awarded if part of the response is correct. A seven-point extended writing-response item, also called an extended writing task, requires the student to write an argumentative essay or an informative/explanatory essay. The student is required to draw from reading experiences when writing the response and to cite evidence from two passages to support claims or examine a topic. The extended writing task is worth up to seven points that contribute to the Writing and Language domain.

In Section 1 of the Georgia Milestones ELA EOC assessment, the first four REBW items help focus the student on the main idea(s) and key details in the passages prior to writing the essay. The first two selected-response items address each of the passages separately. The third selected-response item and the constructed-response item address both of the passages together. All four of these items contribute to a student’s score in the Reading and Vocabulary domain. These four items are then followed by the extended writing task, which requires the student to draw from the reading experiences when writing the essay. The extended writing-response item contributes to a student’s score in the Writing and Language domain.
DEPTH OF KNOWLEDGE

In addition to being aligned to the standards, the sample items included in this sampler were developed with a particular emphasis on cognitive complexity, or Depth of Knowledge (DOK). The DOK level is provided for each item in this sampler in the item information tables. DOK measures the level of cognitive demand required to complete an assessment item. The following descriptions show the expectations of the DOK levels in greater detail.

**Level 1** (Recall of Information) generally requires students to identify, list, or define, often asking them to recall who, what, when, and where. Consequently, this level usually asks students to recall facts, terms, concepts, and trends and may ask them to identify specific information contained in documents, excerpts, quotations, maps, charts, tables, graphs, or illustrations. Items that require students to “describe” and/or “explain” could be classified at Level 1 or Level 2, depending on what is to be described and/or explained. A Level 1 “describe” and/or “explain” would require students to recall, recite, or reproduce information.

**Level 2** (Basic Reasoning) includes the engagement of some mental processing beyond recalling or reproducing a response. A Level 2 “describe” and/or “explain” would require students to go beyond a description or explanation of recalled information to describe and/or explain a result or “how” or “why.”

**Level 3** (Complex Reasoning) requires reasoning, using evidence, and thinking on a higher and more abstract level than Level 1 and Level 2. Students will go beyond explaining or describing “how and why” to justifying the “how and why” through application and evidence. Level 3 questions often involve making connections across time and place to explain a concept or “big idea.”

**Level 4** (Extended Reasoning) requires the complex reasoning of Level 3 with the addition of planning, investigating, applying significant conceptual understanding, and/or developing that will most likely require an extended period of time. Students should be required to connect and relate ideas and concepts within the content area or among content areas in order to be at this highest level. The distinguishing factor for Level 4 would be evidence (through a task, a product, or an extended response) that the cognitive demands have been met.
FORMAT

Sample selected-response and constructed-response items are provided in this sampler, along with any related stimulus information, such as a passage or graphic. Following each constructed-response item is the scoring guide for that item.

The scoring guide includes the item information table, the scoring rubric, and annotated sample student responses at each score point. An item information table is also provided for selected-response items. The content standard for each sample item is provided in this sampler in the item information tables.

The Georgia Milestones assessments have been administered in both paper-and-pencil and online formats. As a result, this sampler includes samples of students’ responses in both formats. This symbol is used to note the format of a sample online item. It also indicates a sample online response.

Example Selected-Response Item Information Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>DOK</th>
<th>Key</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Example Constructed-Response or Extended Writing-Response Item Information Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard:</th>
<th>Item Depth of Knowledge:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

All sample items contained in this sampler are the property of the Georgia Department of Education.
REBW DIRECTIONS

Section 1 of this test assesses your skill to comprehend reading passages and use information from the passages to write an informational/explanatory essay.

Before you begin writing your informational/explanatory essay, you will read two passages and answer three multiple-choice questions and one short constructed-response question about what you have read.

As you read the passages, think about details you may use in an informational/explanatory essay about science fiction.

These are the titles of the passages you will read:

1. Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment
2. Science Fiction Is a Business Fact
Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment

Even though the word science wasn’t part of our vocabulary until 1833 and the term science fiction didn’t appear until 1851, science fiction, as a genre, has much older roots. We know from ancient formations such as Stonehenge and the pyramids, whose builders aligned these structures with the stars, that humans have wondered for centuries about how we fit into the vast universe. In a way, science fiction writers are like these architects: they attempt to write humankind into the cosmos and to answer difficult questions about how we fit into the universe.

To answer these questions, science fiction often changes along with technology. H. G. Wells published The War of the Worlds, a novel about an alien invasion, in 1898, when humans experimented with flight. Orson Welles performed his famous radio broadcast of The War of the Worlds in 1938, at the height of radio’s popularity, and caused widespread panic when people thought that the news on the broadcast was real. Several movies were made of The War of the Worlds: the first in 1953, in the middle of America’s space race with the Soviet Union, and the second in 2005, a few years after the launch of the International Space Station. This one novel, and all of the ways in which it has been reinvented for different media, has mirrored humanity’s own advancements while imagining humankind as part of a more crowded universe.

Today, science fiction is more popular than ever. Every bookstore has a science fiction section. New science fiction movies are released weekly. We collect comic books and action figures and other memorabilia. We stand in lines that circle city blocks to get into comic book conventions filled with costumed participants, actors, and model spacecraft from our favorite science fiction shows. All of this passion reflects more than merely an appreciation for being entertained. It is a testament to humanity’s burning desire to place itself in the stars.

This desire starts young and makes lifelong fans of science fiction. Cartoons and comic books featuring tales of the future draw in young readers. These readers continue to read the genre because science fiction grows the same way people do: by seeking answers to life’s questions. What will become of us? How will our environment change? How do we fit in the world? Science fiction attempts to answer these questions, sometimes with vivid imaginings, and sometimes with predictions about the future that are, not infrequently, surprisingly accurate.

Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder. Young readers explore the unknown, and seasoned readers dig for answers to life’s biggest questions. If art is a reflection of life, then the art of science fiction is something more. It does not just reflect our fascination with futuristic technology—it also reflects our search for the meaning of life itself.
Science Fiction Is a Business Fact

Science fiction has come very far very fast—one might say at warp speed. Once thought of as the genre best discussed in the back room of the local comic shop, dominated by fantastic plots and not-at-all-serious literature, science fiction now boasts eight of the top ten highest-grossing movies of all time. And thanks to the efforts of huge comic book and film companies and their millions of fans, science fiction is expanding beyond bookstore shelves and box offices.

The popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit. T-shirts and video games, along with action figures, role-playing games, lunch boxes, and toothbrushes, have crowded shelves all over the country. And these diverse marketing tools have served to feed the flames of science fiction’s billion-dollar profit machine. After all, men and women in their fifties sport Darth Vader coffee mugs, but even literature professors do not often have War and Peace ballpoint pens, despite that book’s reputation as a serious novel.

Intelligent marketing and solid story lines make science fiction a booming business. Underdogs win on their wits, the guy gets the girl, good beats evil, the world is saved, and the sidekick gets the credit she deserves. And the consumer can wear the shirt, own the cell phone cover, go see the movie for a third time, and buy the graphic novel. There is big money to be made in science fiction, even though it was once considered beneath people who read “real” literature.

However, profit margins don’t tell the whole story of science fiction’s popularity. Good writing makes science fiction a serious literary form. The characters are well written; even bad guys, such as Magneto and Darth Vader, have a depth that comes from serious development. The characters’ backstories rival those of the characters in serious works by Shakespeare, such as Hamlet, for complexity. Themes as universal as love, war, betrayal, and survival appeal to readers and keep them wanting more.

And finally, the serial nature of many of the story lines keeps readers enthralled. Many science fiction writers have 10 or 15 books per series. The Star Wars saga alone is comprised of over 100 novels, not including comic book offshoots or graphic novels. Readers don’t just buy a book; they get hooked on a series and follow it for a lifetime.

Science fiction is a corporate titan. Brilliant marketing, amazing visual appeal, universal themes, and enduring characters make science fiction a business fact not to be ignored.
ITEM 1: SELECTED-RESPONSE

1. The author of “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” concludes that science fiction provides readers with more than just entertainment. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports this idea?

   A. “We know from ancient formations such as Stonehenge and the pyramids, whose builders aligned these structures with the stars, that humans have wondered for centuries about how we fit into the vast universe.”
   B. “Orson Welles performed his famous radio broadcast of The War of the Worlds in 1938, at the height of radio’s popularity, and caused widespread panic when people thought that the news on the broadcast was real.”
   C. “Every bookstore has a science fiction section.”
   D. “It is a testament to humanity’s burning desire to place itself in the stars.”

ITEM 2: SELECTED-RESPONSE

2. Readers of “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” can conclude that part of science fiction’s financial success is due, in part, to wise business planning. Which sentence from the passage BEST supports this conclusion?

   A. “The popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit.”
   B. “There is big money to be made in science fiction, even though it was once considered beneath people who read ‘real’ literature.”
   C. “However, profit margins don’t tell the whole story of science fiction’s popularity.”
   D. “Themes as universal as love, war, betrayal, and survival appeal to readers and keep them wanting more.”

ITEM 3: SELECTED-RESPONSE

3. What main idea can be found in BOTH “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” and “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact”?

   A. Science fiction, as a genre, encompasses more than just the sale of books.
   B. Science fiction exists because people have questions about their place in the universe.
   C. Fans of science fiction are generally very financially successful and invested in the genre.
   D. Science fiction, as a genre, is rooted in humankind’s ancient desire to understand the universe.
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ELAGSE9-10RI1. Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ELAGSE9-10RI1. Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ELAGSE9-10RI2. Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ITEM 4: CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE

ELAGSE9-10RI8

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. **Type your answer in the space provided.**

Scoring Guide

Item 4 Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard: ELAGSE9-10RI8</th>
<th>Item Depth of Knowledge: 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning.</td>
<td>Strategic Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student uses reasoning and develops a plan or sequence of steps; process has some complexity.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## ITEM-SPECIFIC SCORING RUBRIC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| 2     | The response gives sufficient evidence of the ability to delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and evidence is relevant and sufficient.  
- Provides an adequate evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and evidence.  
- Includes specific, relevant examples/details from both passages for support.  

**Exemplar Response:**
Provides an accurate, text-based evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and evidence (e.g., “The author of ‘Science Fiction is a Business Fact’ better supports the topic than the other author because he or she uses more statistics and facts, whereas the author of ‘Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment’ doesn’t use any concrete data and focuses more on the general history of the genre”), and includes specific, relevant textual evidence for support (e.g., “For example, ‘Science Fiction is a Business Fact’ includes statements like, ‘Science fiction now boasts eight of the top ten highest-grossing movies of all time’ and, ‘The Star Wars saga alone is comprised of over 100 novels.’ The other author doesn’t provide specific information like that. He or she only makes vague statements of opinion such as, ‘Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder’ and ‘If art is a reflection of life, then science fiction is something more.’ The author needs to provide more specific details.”) |
| 1     | The response gives limited evidence of the ability to delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and evidence is relevant and sufficient.  
- Provides a weak evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and evidence.  
- Includes vague/limited examples/details from the passage(s) for support.  
  **OR**  
- Provides a credible evaluation based on the passage(s) of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and evidence, without including relevant examples/details from either passage for support.  
  **OR**  
- Includes relevant examples/details from the passage(s) that imply an evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, without explicitly evaluating which author is more effective. |
| 0     | The response gives no evidence of the ability to delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and evidence is relevant and sufficient.  
- Provides no evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and evidence.  
- Includes no relevant examples/details from the passages that imply an evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose. |
I believe the author of “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” was more successful with his purpose of how science fiction affects the human population because it showed different scenarios in which people have been encompassed in the art and plot of science fiction. It describes how it shows who we really are as a species, and how popular the genre of science fiction really is. It talks about how science fiction stories like The War of The Worlds have been reinvented to mirror our advancements while placing us in a crowded universe. “Science Fiction is a Business Fact” lacked in these focuses of emphasizing the true impact of science fiction in the human mind and thinking. It only described how popular certain themes of science fiction were and how the memorabilia that surround these themes make a profit. Discussing merchandise that revolves around the science fiction franchise such as t-shirts, toothbrushes, and coffee mugs does not truly show how science fiction truly affects our thinking.
ELA READING AND EVIDENCE-BASED WRITING ITEM SET

ELAGSE9-10RI8

Response Score: 2 points

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. Type your answer in the space provided.

When comparing “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” and “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact”, the author of “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” most successfully develops the topic according to their purpose while utilizing valid reasoning and relevant evidence. In paragraph two of “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment”, the author states, “H.G. Welles published ‘The War of the Worlds’, a novel about an alien invasion, in 1898, when humans experimented with flight.” From there, the author goes on to describe the significance of Wells’s work and its impact throughout the 20th Century. This demonstrates the author’s use of a specific and relevant example to develop the topic of the essay, which is that science fiction is an awe-inspiring way to explain our place in the universe and that science fiction evolves as a genre as technology changes. However, in “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact,” the author uses very general examples and gets off topic towards the third and fourth paragraphs. For example, the author states, “Good writing makes science fiction a serious literary form.” From there, the paragraph continues to describe the nature of science fiction writing as opposed to further discussing the topic of the passage, which is that science fiction is a profitable genre due to, “Brilliant marketing, amazing visual appeals, universal themes, and enduring characters…” Overall, “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment is more successful in developing the ideas presented by using relevant and specific information along with valid reasoning.
The response provides an adequate evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose using valid reasoning (“‘Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment’ most successfully develops the topic according to their purpose” and “use of a specific and relevant example to develop the topic of the essay, which is that science fiction is an awe-inspiring way to explain our place in the universe and that science fiction evolves as a genre as technology changes”). The student goes on to evaluate why the other author is not as successful (“the author uses very general examples and gets off topic towards the third and fourth paragraphs”).

The response includes specific and relevant examples and details from both passages for support. The student uses an example from “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” (“‘H.G. Welles published “The War of the Worlds”, a novel about an alien invasion, in 1898, when humans experimented with flight’” and “goes on to describe the significance of Wells’s work and its impact throughout the 20th Century”) to prove how the author shows that science fiction changes with technology and tries to explain how we fit into the universe. The examples the student uses from “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” (“‘Good writing makes science fiction a serious literary form’” and “‘Brilliant marketing, amazing visual appeals, universal themes, and enduring characters’”) are intended to show how the author of that passage strays from the topic of the genre’s profitability.
4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. **Type your answer in the space provided.**

The author of Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment developed their topic more successfully. The author used real life examples to explain how science fiction relates to the real world. The author creates questions for the readers like how do we fit in with the universe. The author says, “Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder”. The author of Science Fiction Is a Business Fact talks about a more boring topic. The author of Science Fiction is a Business Fact says “Intelligent marketing and solid story lines make science fiction a booming business”. Most people are not interested how successful the business of science fiction is, so that’s why I think that the author of Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment is an overall better topic and is developed more.

- The response provides an adequate evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose using valid reasoning (“The author of Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment developed their topic more successfully. The author used real life examples to explain how science fiction relates to the real world”). The response attempts to evaluate why the author of the other passage is not as successful in developing his or her purpose (“Most people are not interested how successful the business of science fiction is”).
- The response includes specific and relevant examples and details from both passages for support. The student uses examples from “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment” to demonstrate how the author uses real-life examples (“The author creates questions for the readers like how do we fit in with the universe. The author says, ‘Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder’”) to connect with the reader and be effective. The information the student uses from “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” is intended to show the student’s perceived irrelevancy of the author’s purpose (“‘Intelligent marketing and solid story lines make science fiction a booming business’”).
4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. **Type your answer in the space provided.**

The author of “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” most successfully demonstrates his or her purpose of writing the article. The author wants to show how science fiction is a good seller. He or she is also showing us that it influences people of all ages to continue following the series until the book or movies is over. The author really wants to show us that science fiction is a good thing for marketing with its themes, graphics, and its characters it brings a lot of customers to the store to purchase its books, graphic novels, cups, etc. The other author just doesn’t keep a consistent point and moves from topic to topic.

The response provides a weak evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose (“The author of ‘Science Fiction Is a Business Fact’ most successfully demonstrates his or her purpose” and “The author wants to show how science fiction is a good seller”). There is an attempt to evaluate why the other author is not as effective (“The other author just doesn’t keep a consistent point and moves from topic to topic”).

Limited details from “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” are used in an attempt to show how the author demonstrates that science fiction is profitable (“people of all ages to continue following the series until the book or movies is over” and “themes, graphics, and its characters it brings a lot of customers to the store to purchase its books, graphic novels, cups, etc.”).
ELA READING AND EVIDENCE-BASED WRITING ITEM SET

ELAGSE9-10RI8

Response Score: 1 point

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. Type your answer in the space provided.

The author of the second passage most successfully developed his or her purpose. This author gave more information about the business side and profits from science fiction. They also stayed on topic more. Every paragraph this author wrote had to do with business or merchandise relating to science fiction. The other tried to talk about the history of science fiction, but could not stay focused. The author discusses many different aspects of the topic but the paragraphs don’t always seem to relate to each other. They jump from talking about history to popularity with no connection at all.

- The response provides a credible evaluation based on the passages of which author more successfully developed the topic according to his or her purpose (“The author of the second passage most successfully developed his or her purpose. This author gave more information . . . stayed on topic more”). There is an attempt to evaluate why the other author is not as effective (“The author discusses many different aspects of the topic but the paragraphs don’t always seem to relate to each other”).
- While the response does allude to the content of both passages (“Every paragraph this author wrote had to do with business or merchandise” and “They jump from talking about history to popularity”), no relevant details are used from either passage for support.
ELAGSE9-10RI8

Response Score: 1 point

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. Type your answer in the space provided.

“Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” is focused and talks about how “t-shirts and video games along with action figures, role-playing games, lunch boxes, and toothbrushes” have helped to feed the flames of a billion-dollar profit machine and taken science fiction beyond the bookshelf. It says “professors don’t have War and Peace ballpoint pens” and “Readers don’t just buy a book, they get hooked on a series for a lifetime.” The other passage talks about questions like how will our environment change, how do we fit in with the world, and then goes on to talk about how predictions made by science fiction are often inaccurate before just randomly shifting topics to talk about why people like science fiction.

• The response includes relevant examples and details that imply an evaluation of which author more successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose using valid reasoning and evidence without explicitly stating which author is more effective. The comparison of the difference in the quality of focus in the two passages is enough to imply an evaluation even though the response never clearly states which passage is more effective.

• The relevant details provided from “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” demonstrate the author’s focus on the idea of the growing commercial side of science fiction (“t-shirts and video games along with action figures, role-playing games, lunch boxes, and toothbrushes,” “professors don’t have War and Peace ballpoint pens,” “Readers don’t just buy a book, they get hooked on a series for a lifetime”). The details from and discussion of the other passage are intended to show that author’s lack of focus (“how will our environment change, how do we fit in with the world, and then goes on to talk about how predictions made by science fiction are often inaccurate”).
ELAGSE9-10RI8

Response Score: 0 points

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. Type your answer in the space provided.

The author from “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” is more successfully written. Like for example, “science fiction has come very far very fast, one might say at warp speed”. The popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit.

• The response attempts to evaluate which author is more effective but has provided an irrelevant explanation that uses no reasoning or valid evidence.
• The examples/details provided from the passage are irrelevant.
ELAGSE9-10RI8

Response Score: 0 points

4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. Type your answer in the space provided.

“Science Fiction Is a Business Fact” is the better passage. Why is it better? Because it stays on topic more.

- The response attempts to evaluate which author is more effective but has provided an irrelevant explanation that uses no reasoning or valid evidence.
- No relevant examples/details are provided.
4. Which author MOST successfully develops the topic according to his or her purpose, using valid reasoning and relevant evidence?

Use details from BOTH passages to support your answer. **Type your answer in the space provided.**

**Passage 1 is better because it is more interesting.**

- The response attempts to evaluate which author is more effective but has provided an irrelevant explanation that uses no reasoning or valid evidence.
- No relevant examples/details are provided.
ITEM 5: EXTENDED WRITING-RESPONSE

WRITING TASK

Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay.

Writer's Checklist

Be sure to:

• Introduce the topic clearly, provide a focus, and organize information in a way that makes sense.
• Use information from the two passages so that your essay includes important details.
• Develop the topic with facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
• Identify the passages by title or number when using details or facts directly from the passages.
• Develop your ideas clearly and use your own words, except when quoting directly from the passages.
• Use appropriate and varied transitions to connect ideas and to clarify the relationship among ideas and concepts.
• Use clear language and vocabulary.
• Establish and maintain a formal style.
• Provide a conclusion that supports the information presented.
• Check your work for correct usage, grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.

Now write your informational/explanatory essay on your answer document. Refer to the Writer’s Checklist as you write and proofread your essay.
5. Writing Task (Write your essay here.)

Scoring Guide

Item 5 Information

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<th>Standards:</th>
<th>Item Depth of Knowledge: 4 Extended Thinking</th>
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<tr>
<td>ELAGSE9-10W2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.</td>
<td>Student conducts an investigation, needs time to think and process multiple conditions of the problem or task.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELAGSE9-10L1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ELAGSE9-10L2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.</td>
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## Trait 1 for Informational/Explanatory Genre

### Writing Trait 1 Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| **4**  | The student’s response is a well-developed informative/explanatory text that examines a topic in depth and presents related information based on text as a stimulus.  
  - Effectively introduces the topic and main idea(s) to be examined  
  - Uses an organizational strategy to present information effectively and maintain focus and to make important connections and distinctions  
  - Thoroughly develops the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and enough facts; extended definitions; concrete details; quotations; or other information and examples that are appropriate for the audience  
  - Uses appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion, to link major sections of the text, and to clarify the relationship among ideas  
  - Effectively uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate to the audience and complexity of the topic  
  - Establishes and maintains a formal style and an objective tone  
  - Provides a strong concluding statement or section that logically follows from the ideas presented |
| **3**  | The student’s response is a complete informative/explanatory text that examines a topic and presents information based on text as a stimulus.  
  - Introduces the topic and main idea(s) to be examined  
  - Has an organizational strategy to group information and provide focus, but sometimes connections and distinctions are not clear  
  - Uses a few pieces of relevant information from sources to develop topic  
  - Uses some transitions to connect and clarify relationships among ideas, but relationships may not always be clear  
  - Uses some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic  
  - Maintains a formal style and objective tone, for the most part  
  - Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from the ideas presented |
| **2**  | The student’s response is an incomplete or oversimplified informative/explanatory text that cursorily examines a topic based on text as a stimulus.  
  - Attempts to introduce a topic or main idea  
  - Ineffectively organizes ideas, concepts, and information  
  - Develops topic, sometimes unevenly, with little relevant information  
  - Attempts to link ideas and concepts, but cohesion is inconsistent  
  - Uses limited precise language and/or domain-specific vocabulary to manage the topic  
  - Attempts to establish formal style and objective tone but struggles to maintain them  
  - Provides a weak concluding statement or section |
### Trait 1 for Informational/Explanatory Genre (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing Trait</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|               | 1      | *The student’s response is a weak attempt to write an informative/explanatory text that examines a topic based on text as a stimulus.*  
• May not introduce a topic or main idea, or the topic or main idea must be inferred  
• May be too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure, or no structure is evident  
• Provides minimal information to develop the topic, little or none of which is from sources  
• Struggles to link some ideas and concepts, but cohesion is weak throughout  
• Uses vague, ambiguous, inexact, or repetitive language  
• Lacks appropriate formal style and tone  
• Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section |
|               | 0      | *The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:*  
• Blank  
• Copied  
• Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible  
• Non-English/Foreign Language  
• Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive |
**SEVEN-POINT, TWO-TRAIT RUBRIC**

**Trait 2 for Informational/Explanatory Genre**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing Trait</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Language Usage and Conventions | 3 | The student’s response demonstrates full command of language usage and conventions.  
• Uses clear and complete sentence structure, with appropriate range and variety  
• Makes an attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources via in-text or parenthetical citations  
• Has no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning* |
| 2 | The student’s response demonstrates partial command of language usage and conventions.  
• Uses complete sentences, with some variety  
• Attributes paraphrases and direct quotations inconsistently to their sources via in-text or parenthetical citations  
• Has minor errors in usage and/or conventions with no significant effect on meaning* |
| 1 | The student’s response demonstrates weak command of language usage and conventions.  
• Has fragments, run-ons, and/or other sentence structure errors  
• Makes little, if any, attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources  
• Has frequent errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning* |
| 0 | The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:  
• Blank  
• Copied  
• Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible  
• Non-English/Foreign Language  
• Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive |

*Students are responsible for language conventions learned in their current grade as well as in prior grades. Refer to the language skills for each grade to determine the grade-level expectations for grammar, syntax, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Also refer to the “Language Progressive Skills, by Grade” chart for those standards that need continued attention beyond the grade in which they were introduced.
Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

Throughout the years, creativity, reading, and exploring have evolved as authors and developers imagine these fictional worlds and explore the universe, changing the course of science fiction. Science fiction first came about in the 1800’s, and since then, writers and architects have dug deeper into the mysterious genre.

Since the exploration of science fiction began, its ominous mysteries have attracted thousands of readers across the globe. These readers delve into the wonders of science fiction, learning more about each story in the universe day to day. The popularity has expanded, not just as books or movies, but more so as a theory, a what if?

Science fiction has been growing each year, it leaves its fans with questions, the genre sparks the minds of aspiring authors and adventuers, and science fiction transports its readers into its universe that has been created. The popularity of science fiction has rocketed with all the unanswered and unexplored areas of the universe.

As more people learn about the different worlds science fiction opens the mind up to, it begins asking questions. What about . . .? What if . . .? To explain, “The serial nature of many of the story lines keeps readers enthralled” (passage two). These questions keep movie-goers and readers on edge. These theories and reasons that show up in the minds of people who question the writing is what continues to change the world. To go more in depth, “The desire starts young and makes lifelong fans of science fiction . . . these readers continue to read the genre because science fiction grows the same way people do: by seeking answers to life’s questions . . . seasoned readers dig for answers to life’s biggest questions” (passage one).
Ideas bounce back and forth between people, young and old, they are what is beginning to shape our world today. “If art is a reflection of life, then the art of science fiction is something more. It does not just reflect our fascination with futuristic technology—it also reflects our search for the meaning of life itself” (passage one). Furthermore, science fiction sparks the wonders and creativity buried within the minds of aspiring authors and adventurers. The idea of these fantasy worlds that are created leaves them with a yearning to explore. They want to know more about these worlds, and if our universe could hold that sort of adventure their favorite characters experience. “Science fiction attempts to answer these questions, sometimes with vivid imaginings...science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder. Young readers explore the unknown, and seasoned readers dig for answers to life’s biggest questions” (passage one).

The writers dig deeper into the stories, to find meaning and hidden theories in them. The adventurous ones go out. They go out into the world, exploring and looking for more. To coincide, “Readers don’t just buy a book; they get hooked on a series and follow it for a lifetime” (passage two). People who have grown to love science fiction pass on ideas that come about in their minds while reading. They answer more questions about the universe, but as they answer more, they only leave more unanswered ones. To explain, science fiction transports its readers to another dimension, for a short while, allowing them to leave their life for another.

Sometimes, people could use a little escape. Science fiction includes action, romance, fighting, humour, things that interest people who have been drawn into science fiction itself. These stories and adventures draw people into their worlds, they allow them to feel emotion and action, love, and hate, just as it would in real life. Only in real life, it is much more perturbing. Sometimes people need a new life to escape to for a short while. “Underdogs win their wits. the guy gets the girl, good beats evil...themes as universal love, war, betrayal, and survival appeal to readers” (passage two). Aspiring creativity reflects off these characteristics, the readers wanting to be able to live in those worlds. That is what good writing does. It offers the reader an escape. “It is a testament to humanity’s burning desire to place itself in the stars” (passage one).

To wrap up, the questions, creativity, and adventure are found within everyone. Whether hidden deep within, or boldly shown, more readers learn about the world of science fiction each day. Science fiction leaves readers wanting to know more, it sparks the imagination in minds both young and old, and the genre allows a temporary escape. The popularity grows because these humorous and dark worlds appeal to readers. The characters from the movies or books not only become real, they become family to the readers.
DOC: 4
• This response effectively introduces the topic and main idea (“Science fiction has been growing each year, it leaves its fans with questions, the genre sparks the minds of aspiring authors and adventurers, and science fiction transports its readers into its universe that has been created”).
• An effective organizational strategy is used to present information, maintain focus, and make important connections and distinctions (introduction, well-organized and developed body paragraphs, conclusion).
• The response thoroughly develops the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts; extended definitions; concrete details; quotations; or other information and examples that are appropriate for the audience (“The idea of these fantasy worlds that are created leaves them with a yearning to explore. They want to know more about these worlds, and if our universe could hold that sort of adventure their favorite characters experience”).
• Appropriate and varied transitions are used to create cohesion, to link major sections of the text, and to clarify the relationships among ideas (“To go more in depth,” “Furthermore,” “To explain”).
• Precise language and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate to the audience and complexity of the topic are used (“sparks the wonders and creativity buried within the minds of aspiring authors and adventurers”).
• A formal style and objective tone are established and maintained.
• A strong concluding section that logically follows from the ideas presented is provided (“To wrap up, the questions, creativity, and adventure are found within everyone”).

LUC: 3
• The response uses clear and complete sentence structure.
• The response makes an attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources.
• The response has no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning.
ELA READING AND EVIDENCE-BASED WRITING ITEM SET

ELAGSE9-10W2, ELAGSE9-10L1, ELAGSE9-10L2

Response Scores:
   Idea Development, Organization, and Coherence: 4
   Language Usage and Conventions: 3

5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Write your answer on the lines on your answer document.

An endless universe lies just beyond our own earth and everything we’ve ever known. Humans have wondered of what lies in this vast universe since ancient times and where we fit as a species. Poems, novels, and epics have been written about gods, secret places, dystopians, and ancient humans with godly powers. But does the universe hold a key to such things? Science fiction is one of the more popular entertainment genres that seeks to answer some of these questions, no matter how complex or farfetched they seem, making science fiction very successful to this day.

An obvious reason for why science fiction is so successful would be visual appeal. When we go to see
movies such as Interstellar or Jurassic Park, our eyes are treated with the most incredible graphic effects. We like to believe these effects are the real deal, as valid as our minds allow. As stated in Passage 2 “…amazing visual appeal, universal themes, and enduring characters make science fiction a business fact not to be ignored.” That line basically states that we are drawn to science fiction because we know it may be appealing to our sight and minds.

Though special effects can be appealing, so can themes and plots. Successful science fiction pieces always have a theme. In Jurassic Park, one of the quotes was, “nature finds a way.” This turned out to be very true when the supposedly all female dinosaurs began breeding. Passage 1 states, “…science fiction often changes along with technology…” Around the time of Jurassic Park, humans began experimenting with DNA much more as well as archeological finds. Some themes such as this one show that humans cannot always control nature or create the perfect scenario, displaying mankind’s errors and even greed.

Therefore, it’s interesting to watch and read pieces of science fiction because it helps us better understand our
world and know our limits in it. While growing up as children and young adults, this becomes much more visible. As young people, we tend to attach ourselves to common fandoms such as Twilight or The Hunger Games because it appeals to our sense of reality. Passage 1 says, “the desire starts young and makes lifelong fans of science fiction.” Authors know this and therefore add loveable characters and the infamous love triangle. Science fiction has become successful because we stick with these fandoms for our entire lives and might even pass them down to our own kids. Divergent and The Hunger Games are fine examples of this. Even some adults are dragged into this stuff by their own children and end up loving it as much as they do, creating a love for certain science fiction pieces in the family.

Science fiction has come a long way. Some predictions of the future in the genre are accurate, but most can be flat out incorrect. Still, we rewatch our favorite sci-fi movies and reread our favorite sci-fi novels because they have left their big question of the universe in our heads forever.
DOC: 4

- The response effectively introduces the topic and main ideas to be examined (“Science fiction is one of the more popular entertainment genres that seeks to answer some of these questions, no matter how complex or farfetched they seem, making science fiction very successful to this day”).
- An organizational strategy is used to present information effectively and maintain focus and to make important connections and distinctions (there is an inviting introduction followed by three body paragraphs addressing the visual appeal, the successful themes, and the appeal to our sense of reality, followed by a satisfying conclusion).
- The response thoroughly develops the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts; extended definitions; concrete details; quotations; or other information and examples that are appropriate for the audience (“Passage 1 states, ‘. . . science fiction often changes along with technology . . .’”).
- Appropriate and varied transitions are used to create cohesion, to link major sections of the text, and to clarify the relationships among ideas (“Around the time” and “Therefore”).
- The response effectively uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary (“visual appeal” and the more playful “dragged into”) appropriate to the audience and complexity of the topic.
- A formal style and objective tone are established and maintained.
- This response provides a strong concluding statement (“Still, we rewatch our favorite sci-fi movies and reread our favorite sci-fi novels because they have left their big question of the universe in our heads forever”).

LUC: 3

- The response uses clear and complete sentence structure with appropriate range and variety.
- The response makes an attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources.
- There are no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

“Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today. “Not only is this statement very true but it is also inevitable. Primarily because humans have had a thing for Science fiction long ago and it is such a popular genre.

Science fiction has changed our world in ways unimagable. “This desire starts young and makes lifelong fans of science fiction. Cartoons and comic books featuring tale of future draw in young readers.” It gains it’s popularity by attracting you while your young and forever imprints on you as part of your childhood, sticking with you for the rest of your life. While a 13 year old would be more likely to read a comic book than a 30 year old, it still draws in older readers. “Young readers explore the unknown, and seasoned readers dig for answerd to lifes biggest questions. “

One reason why reason why it is so popular is that it strikes the imaginative part of the mind and is very thought provoking . “Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder,” says the author of “An Ancient Entertainment.” This creates questions like “Are we truly alone out there? What is our purpose in life? If we ever encounter a foreign being how will it turn out?” These questions are what keep bringing fans back and back again.

To show how popular it is people “stand in lines that circle city blocks to get into comic book conventions filled with costumed participants, actors and model space craft from our favorite Science fiction shows.”
Now Science fiction is not only a very popular but also very profitable with its vastly growing popularity comes big bucks made by the people who create and craft it. Here author 2 says “science fiction now boasts eight of the top highest grossing movies of all time.” The highest grossing movie was indeed Science fiction in genre and made almost a mind-blowing 3 billion dollars. Science fiction movies on average make about 900 million dollars--usually 4 times what it's originaly cost to made.

Movies are not the only sources of Science fiction profit. Usually now “Every bookstore has a science fiction section . . . We collect comicbooks and action figures and other memorabilia.” As children and adults continue to purchase science fiction merchandise more profit is made. Companies are now maximizing profit and making Science fiction a ‘booming business” through “Intelligent marketing and solid story lines.”

With all its poularity science fiction has become “a coporate titan.” Tracing its roots back to centuries ago, its fan based has mutiplied a unimagable number in its time and as result has become extremely profitable. Think of it as a celebrity--as it becomes more and more famous it produces more and more money. Science fiction has truely changed the world we live in today.

DOC: 4
- The response effectively introduces the topic and main ideas to be examined (“‘Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today. ‘Not only is this statement very true but it is also inevitable. Primarily because humans have had a thing for science fiction long ago and it is such a popular genre”).
- An organizational strategy is used to present information effectively (strong introduction, strong middle with lots of details, strong conclusion).
- The development of the topic is thorough with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts; extended definitions; concrete details; quotations; or other information and examples that are appropriate for the audience (“‘Science fiction appeals to our sense of wonder,’ says the author of ‘An Ancient Entertainment’”).
- The response uses appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion, to link major sections of the text, and to clarify the relationships among ideas (“To show how popular it is,” “not only a very popular but also very profitabl”).
- Precise language and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate to the audience and complexity of the topic are effectively used (“create and craft it,” “Tracing its roots back”).
- A formal style is established and maintained.
- The response provides a strong concluding statement or section that logically follows from the ideas presented (“Science fiction has truely changed the world we live in today”).

LUC: 2
- The response uses complete sentences with some variety.
- The response inconsistently attributes direct quotations to their sources via in-text citations.
- The response has minor errors in spelling, usage, and conventions that have no significant effect on meaning (missing internal punctuation, consistent capitalization of “Science,” “unimagable,” “comic books featuring tale of future,” “it’s popularity,” “while your young,” “answerd to lifes biggest questions,” “profitabl,” “what it’s originaly cost,” “fan based has mutiplied a unimagable number,” “and as result,” “truely”).
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Write your answer on the lines on your answer document.

Science fiction is one of the most popular forms of entertainment in the world today. Why? Does anyone really know why we all love science fiction so much? I mean I guess some people just say, “Well I like the movie because it’s entertaining!” or “I like to read it because it’s cool!” but I don’t think that is the real reason why.

The first reason I think people love this genre so much is because everyone age group and gender can relate to it. “Underdogs win on their wits, the guy gets the girl, good beats evil, the world is saved, and the sidekick gets the credit..."
she deserves.\textquoteleft\textquoteleft, a line from the passage \textquoteleft\textquoteleft Science Fiction: Is a Business Fact\textquoteright\textquoteright states that the science fiction genre has all of this in their movies, books, etc. The women love to see the romances and the hot guy getting the girl part and the men love to see the action packed blowing up kind of part. The children on the other hand love to see the superheroes saving the world and the good guy winning. Also this genre can relate to the underdogs or \textquoteleft\textquoteleft nerds\textquoteright\textquoteleft and smart people of the world too by adding in underdogs winning on their wits. This genre can relate to anyone.

The second reason I think this genre is so popular and big in this world is because humankind wants to know the big picture of our tiny life and to find out the answers to the questions that no one really knows. In the passage, "Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment", the author states, "In a way, science fiction writers are like these architects: they attempt to wt rtie huimankind into the cosmos and to
answer difficult questions about how we fit into the universe. A lot of people think of what the rest of the universe is like and no one will really know until we have the equipment and technology to find out. People always have difficult questions that no one knows the answer to, but some science fiction books and etc. explore and try to answer these weird, tough questions. The other reason I think the science fiction genre is so big is because of the marketing they use. So many of the series have 10 to 15 books, if not more. When people find something they love, they want more. The authors and marketers give this to the people by making so much more of the movie or book.

In conclusion, everyone loves science fiction in a way and can relate and wants more. No one really doesn’t watch it or talk of it in some way. The people of the world is what makes it so popular. Without the topic of science fiction, we wouldn’t have the greatness of wonder and space.
**DOC: 3**

- The response introduces the topic and main ideas to be examined ("Science fiction is one of the most popular forms of entertainment in the world today").
- An organizational strategy to group information and provide focus is present (good introduction, good middle with details, good conclusion).
- The response uses a few pieces of relevant information from sources to develop the topic ("'Underdogs win on their wits, the guy gets the girl, good beats evil, the world is saved, and the sidekick gets the credit she deserves,' a line from the passage ‘Science Fiction Is a Business Fact’ states that the science fiction genre has all of this in their movies, books, etc.").
- Some transitions are used to connect and clarify relationships among ideas, but relationships may not always be clear ("The first reason," "The second reason").
- Some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary is used to explain the topic ("until we have the equipment and technology to find out").
- This response provides a concluding statement ("In conclusion, Everyone loves science fiction in a way and can relate and wants more").

**LUC: 3**

- The response uses clear and complete sentence structure, with appropriate range and variety.
- The response makes an attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources via in-text or parenthetical citations.
- There are no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning.
Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today. The genre catches all sorts of readers' attention by entertainment, understanding of life, and the intelligent marketing.

In “Science Fiction is a Business Fact”, the author states that good writing makes science fiction a serious literary form. Writers work hard to make the characters interesting and appealing, and the story lines grab readers' attention. Love, betrayal, war, and more are usually involved in science fiction stories.
It is highly entertaining to readers, and the story lines keep them wanting more.

Not only is the genre entertaining because of the story, but also because of the actual scientific parts. It is natural for us humans to wonder about the reasoning of life. Readers crave the understanding of life and any science relating to it. In “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment”, the author states that the art of science fiction not only reflects our fascination with futuristic technology, but it also reflects our search for the meaning of life itself.

Last but not least, intelligent marketing makes science fiction a hit. Watchers and readers see the movie, buy the novels, and purchase the t-shirts and other fun goods that are produced. The author in “Science Fiction is a Business Fact” states that the popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its
All these factors add up to the reasoning on why science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment today. Science fiction feeds the readers’ entertainment by the reasoning for life, the intelligent marketing, and the good story plots.

DOC: 3
• The response introduces the topic and main ideas to be examined (“Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today”).
• The response has an organizational strategy that groups information and provides focus (good introduction, good middle with details, good conclusion).
• The response uses a few pieces of relevant information from sources to develop the topic (“In ‘Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment’, the author states that the art of science fiction not only reflects our fascination with futuristic technology, but it also reflects our search for the meaning of life itself”).
• Some transitions are used to connect and clarify relationships among ideas, but relationships may not always be clear (“Last but not least”).
• Some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary are used to explain the topic (“crave the understanding of life,” but “the reasoning for life” is somewhat difficult to understand).
• The response maintains a formal style.
• A concluding statement is provided (“All these factors add up to the reasoning on why science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment today. Science fiction feeds the readers’ entertainment by the reasoning for life, the intelligent marketing, and the good story plots”).

LUC: 3
• The response uses clear and complete sentence structure, with appropriate range and variety.
• The response makes an attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources via in-text or parenthetical citations.
• The response has no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

Science fiction in the world today, has become insanely popular amongst lost of people we know. Chances are, is that you no one of these people, whether it’s a “trekie” (from star trek), or just someone who some would call a “geek”! These people are all of the place, one could be your cashier at a grocery store, one could be a coworker or your boss, there could even be one sitting right next to you!

Now, why has science fiction become so popular? Could it be because of the star war movies, or video games, what about technology? According to “Science Fiction: An Ancient Entertainment”, its because it appeals to our sense of wonder. They read what is impossible for them to do at the time they are reading it the article states “If art is a reflection of life, then the art of science faction is something more. It does not just reflect our fascination with futuristic technology- it also reflects our search for the meaning of life itself.”.

Why do get so connected to science fiction? Why has it become so interesting to us that people literally dress up as their favorite science fiction character, and go to a place with lots of other people doing the same exact thing? It’s because we want to know the unknown. In these Science fiction movies and books, their are people with light sabers fighting in space, and there are people shooting lasers at eachother, also in space! We know that this will not happen anytime soon, so people get connected to the characters. They want to experence the exact same things they do. They want to experence the life that they get to live in these movies! And because of this, because we get so connected to these characters, they make tshirts, bobble heads, video games, clothes, bedsheets, ect. with your favorite characters face on it!
In “Science Fiction Is a Business Fact”, they say “The popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit.” So everytime you buy that science fiction shirt, or anything else that has to do with it, you are funding them to keep the business going, to keep the movies going, and in return the readers keep getting more connected everytime they release something new.

DOC: 3
- The response is a well-developed informative/explanatory essay that examines a topic in depth and presents related information based on text.
- This response introduces the topic and main ideas to be examined (“Science fiction in the world today, has become insanely popular amongst lost of people”).
- An organizational strategy is used to group information and provide focus, but some connections and distinctions are not clear. (There is an introduction and two body paragraphs about the popularity of sci-fi and its connection to our senses. This is followed by a conclusion that includes the business factors instead of making this a third body paragraph.)
- A few pieces of relevant information from the sources are used to develop topic (“its because it appeals to our sense of wonder,” “The popularity of science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit”).
- Some transitions are used to connect and clarify relationships among ideas, but relationships may not always be clear (“Now” and “In these”).
- Some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary are used to explain the topic. (Some descriptive language, such as “insanely popular,” is used. However, much of the precise vocabulary—including the list of items to be collected—echoes that found in the passages.)
- The response maintains a formal style (a more formal tone is consistently used).
- The response provides a concluding statement (“everytime you buy that science fiction shirt, or anything else that has to do with it, you are funding them to keep the business going, to keep the movies going, and in return the readers keep getting more connected everytime they release something new”).

LUC: 2
- The response uses complete sentences with some variety.
- The response attributes paraphrases and direct quotations inconsistently to their sources.
- The response has minor errors in usage and/or conventions that have no significant effect on meaning (“you no one of these people,” “lost” for “lots,” movie titles—like “star trek” and “star war”—are not capitalized, “its because,” “science faction is somthing more,” “intersting,” “their are people,” “eachother,” “your favorite characters face on it,” “everytime”).
Science fiction is the reality that some people wish they had. It is so imaginative to come up with different things in a science fiction story. When you see some like mutants or monsters walking down the street harassing people you instinctively would want to attack and defeat it. Science fiction is like a world where that can happen. You could have super powers or anything, so when readers read a science fiction book or comic it is like an adventure that they go on to do those things. It also sells, so making money from it won’t be hard. Everyday thousands of people spend money on something involving science fiction. Whether it’s clothing, jewelry, books, comics, games, accessories, or movies, there is always a profit to be made. Science fiction is so relevant in our life that it furthers our research into technology. Some of the futuristic technology in science fiction is being made in our time period. It pushes our advance to have better technology. anyone could start writing an amazing science fiction novel, comic, or movie script with just a vivid imagination. Science fiction could one day lead us to the answers about the universe and all of its secrets.
DOC: 2
- The response is an incomplete or oversimplified informative text that cursorily examines a topic.
- There is an attempt to introduce a topic or main idea (“Science fiction is the reality that some people wish they had”).
- Ideas, concepts, and information are ineffectively organized with a simple introduction and a list of ideas, wrapped up by a minimal conclusion. (The ideas mentioned in the response are not developed in great detail. The response jumps quickly from imagination, to business sense, to technology.)
- The response develops the topic, sometimes unevenly, with little relevant information (“Everyday thousands of people spend money on something involving science fiction. Whether it’s clothing, jewelry, books, comics, games, accessories, or movies, there is always a profit to be made”).
- There is an attempt to link ideas and concepts, but cohesion is inconsistent (“Science fiction is so relevant in our life that it furthers our research into technology. Some of the futuristic technology in science fiction is being made in our time period. It pushes our advance to have better technology”).
- Limited precise language and/or domain-specific vocabulary is used to manage the topic. (Some of the description is vague: “some people” and “or anything”.)
- The response attempts to establish formal style but struggles to maintain it. (The response frequently defaults to adding the very informal/colloquial “like” in the middle of sentences.)
- A weak concluding statement is provided (“Science fiction could one day lead us to the answers about the universe and all of its secrets”).

LUC: 2
- The response uses complete sentences with some variety.
- The response makes no attempt to attribute paraphrases/direct quotations to their sources.
- The response has minor errors in usage and/or conventions with no significant effect on meaning. (For example, “It pushes our advance” may be missing a word or else was substituted for “advancement”; “mutants or monsters” becomes singular “it” rather than “them” later in the sentence; capitalization issue: “better technology. anyone.”)
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Write your answer on the lines on your answer document.

Science fiction has been around since the 1800s. Since then people have been very interested in it. Science fiction is a genre where authors and producers answer the questions everyone wants to know about the universe in a fictional way. Science fiction has grown since the 1800s and it is still becoming more popular today. It has become so popular that authors and movie producers that make science fiction books or movies earn more profit than any other genre. When a producer films a popular science fiction movie, money starts to roll in his or her pockets. Items such as t-shirts, phone cases, coffee mugs, and video games
are sold, which makes a huge profit. Science fiction may be entertaining, but people don't always follow science fiction for the entertainment. Some people may want to search for life biggest questions. Science fiction gives you that suspense or interest about what's going on in our universe. Science fiction can be exciting, thrilling, suspenseful, and scary. That is why science fiction has been popular and successful for many years.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

Science Fiction has become so successful because in this genre, the things that happen in the movie are larger than life, things that wouldn’t normally happen. With peoples imagination these days, most people find these movies very exciting. First, the largest reason the industry is so successful is because “...science fiction has always relied on the diversity of its product lines for profit. T-shirts and video games, along with action figures, role-playing games, lunch boxes, and toothbrushes, have crowded the shelves all over the country.” Another reason it is a big industry is because it “...appeals to our sense of wonder.” They claim that, “It is a testament to humanity’s burning desire to place itself in the stars. This desire starts young and makes lifelong fans of science fiction.” Finally, science fiction is such a big industry is because its everywhere. “Every bookstore has a science fiction section. New science fiction movies are released weekly.”
The response attempts to introduce a topic (“Science Fiction has become so successful because in this genre, the things that happen in the movie are larger than life, things that wouldn't normally happen”).

Ideas, concepts, and information are ineffectively organized. After a brief introductory clause, the response begins listing specific facts from the articles.

The response develops the topic, sometimes unevenly, with little relevant information. (It uses several quotations from the passages such as “appeals to our sense of wonder.”)

There is an attempt to link ideas and concepts, but cohesion is inconsistent. Basic linking words are used: “First,” “Another reason,” “Finally.”

Limited precise language and/or domain-specific vocabulary are used to manage the topic.

Much of the precise vocabulary is found in direct quotations from the passage.

The response attempts to establish formal style and objective tone but struggles to maintain them.

A weak concluding section is provided (“Finally, science fiction is such a big industry is because it’s everywhere. ‘Every bookstore has a science fiction section. New science fiction movies are released weekly’”).

The response uses complete sentences, with some variety. (There are awkwardly constructed sentences, like “Finally, science fiction is such a big industry is because it’s everywhere.”)

No attempt is made to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources. While direct quotations are used, they are not attributed to any particular source.

The response has minor errors in usage and/or conventions with no significant effect on meaning (apostrophe errors: “peoples imagination” and “its everywhere”; misspellings: “fition”).
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

The reason why science fiction is popular is because it’s fun. How is it fun? Well, you learn some pretty neat things from it, like new science stuff. It teaches you about what is possible and how things change. What does it teach you? Science fiction might teach you about animals that no longer exist. It can teach you about cool technology and it can predict the next invention that will change our lives. Science fiction is all over things like movies, games, and comic books. It can teach little kids about our planet. The first story says it has been around since 1851 and it keeps giving us cool ideas for experiments.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today. Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful. Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Write your answer on the lines on your answer document.

Science fiction are way more popular than ever. Almost every kid loves science fiction. You see them at public libraries with their own section, you see them at elementary, middle, and high schools. It's everywhere you go on TV and cereal boxes etc. TV is where you mostly see science fiction at. Darth Vader is a wonderful example of scientific fiction. Star Wars is a common well known science fiction movie. They have amazing visual appeal. They appear on coffee mugs, blankets, and other household items. Science fiction is
DOC: 1
• The attempt at introducing the topic is minimal and unclear ("Science fiction are way way more popular than ever"). This may be intended as another fact about the topic rather than an introductory sentence.
• The response is too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure, consisting of a brief list of facts extracted from the passage. There is no cohesion between the ideas.
• Minimal information is provided to develop the topic, little or none of which is from the sources ("They appear on coffe mugs, blankets, and other householding items").
• Vague, ambiguous language is used ("You see them at public libraries with there own section, you see them at elementary, middle and high schools").
• There is no concluding statement. The response breaks off abruptly, as if the student was interrupted, possibly due to time constraints.

LUC: 1
• The response contains run-ons ("You see them at public libraries with there own section, you see them at elementary, middle and high schools") and/or other sentence structure errors.
• The response makes no attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources.
• Frequent errors in usage and conventions have little effect on meaning ("Science fiction are way more popular than ever" should be “is”; “coffe” and “Tv”; “there own section” should be “their”; “vader” should be capitalized). The response is too brief to demonstrate command of language skill.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

Science fiction has an big inpact on us. It not just one thing its billions. Its is basiclly used on a day to day bases such as; T-shirts, video games, action figures, lunch boxes, and ect. I feel like it has become a long way because of all the new technology we use. Science fiction is in yhe movies we watch the books we reads it is thrown at use nd we dont even know. Science fiction is businnesss because it makes money by the impact of it.
5. Science fiction has become one of the most popular and profitable forms of entertainment in the world today.

Think about this statement, and then write an informational/explanatory essay in your own words explaining why science fiction has become so successful.

Be sure to use information from BOTH passages in your informational/explanatory essay. Type your answer in the space provided.

Science fiction is a genre of literature to read. It provides answers that some people may not be able to describe. It explains why people are on the earth. It also scared people. Movies where made then profit was made with it. Scientific fiction brought people joy to reading and it made money for some people, it even scared some people.

DOC: 1
• The response does not provide an introduction.
• The response is too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure, instead utilizing list-like format to provide basic facts from the passages.
• The response provides minimal information to develop the topic. For example, the reader is told that it is a “genre of literature,” but no examples of books or who reads them is provided.
• The response uses vague, ambiguous language (“It explains why people are on the earth. It also scared people”).
• There is no concluding statement or section.

LUC: 1
• The response has run-on sentences (“Scientific fiction brought people joy to reading and it made money for some people, it even scared some people”).
• The response makes no attempt to attribute paraphrases and direct quotations to their sources.
• The response has frequent errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning (“Scientific fiction brought people joy to reading” should be “brought”; numerous spelling errors: “genre,” “literature,” “answers,” “explains,” “where” for “were”). The response is too brief to demonstrate command of language skill.