



Task-based Activity Cover Sheet

Task Title: Write a Summary of Opinion

Learner Name:	
Date Started:	Date Completed:
Successful Completion: Yes___ No___	
Goal Path: Employment___ Apprenticeship___ Secondary School ✓ Post Secondary ✓ Independence___	
Task Description: Write a summary to express an opinion on a topic	
Competency: B Communicate Ideas and Information	Task Group(s): B2 Write Continuous Text
Level Indicators: B2.3 Write longer texts to present information, ideas and opinions	
Performance Descriptors: see chart or click here	
Skill Building Activities: see the last page or click here	
Materials Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pen• Paper• Sample summary of opinion (attached)	
ESKARGO: Skills and Knowledge Required for Successful Task Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writes continuous text to present information, summarize, express opinions, present arguments, convey ideas, or persuade Organization – Visual Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organizes and sequences writing to communicate effectively• Selects supporting ideas for effect; may use opinions/quotes and statistics• Revises independently, seeking feedback when needed Style – Voice, Vocabulary, and Sentence Variety <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selects and uses vocabulary, tone, and structure appropriate to the task• Uses a variety of vocabulary, structures, and approaches to convey main ideas with supporting details• Uses voice appropriate to purpose• Selects words and expressions to create specific effects Mechanics – Punctuation, Spelling, and Grammar <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uses commas to separate an introductory phrase or clause from the main part of the sentence, and to	



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separate phrases and clauses in a series

- Confirms spelling of difficult, unfamiliar words by using word knowledge and a variety of resources
- Edits own writing to eliminate spelling, grammar and punctuation errors
- Uses verb tenses consistently throughout a piece of writing
- Uses complex sentence structures correctly (e.g., sentences using connecting words such as if, as, when, though, etc.)

Attitudes:

Practitioner,

We encourage you to talk with the learner about attitudes required to complete this task set. The context of the task has to be considered when identifying attitudes.

With your learner, please check one of the following;

- Attitude is not important Attitude is somewhat important Attitude is very important



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Learner Information and Tasks:

Forming and expressing opinions prepares students for writing essays in which they will be required to present an argument. Read the sample summary of opinion before completing the following task.

Task 1: Choose a current issue that interests you. This issue could be something you agree or disagree with. Write a summary of your opinion on the issue.

Some topic ideas are:

- Legalization of marijuana
- Abortion
- Living Wage
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Minimum Wage
- Sex education in school
- Same sex marriage
- Ontario Works
- Teens not completing high-school



Sample Summary of Opinion

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Picture walking down any major street in a big city, in any country. Have you ever not been approached by a homeless person begging for money in these situations? I didn't think so. And what do we do? Ignore them. Most people are afraid they will be mugged or harmed if they stop to offer a handout to these people. For those that do stop, "Go get yourself a nice hot meal," one might say, but what about tomorrow? We can't let these people depend on handouts from passersby on the street.

Stats Canada states that 31% of all homeless or poor people are single mothers with infants or young children. What are they to do? Donations and shelters have been established but they don't seem to be making the problem go away. Crime rates may be increasing due to people stealing or killing to get what they want. Suicide rates may increase due to such people taking their own lives because they've given up hope and don't want to live like this anymore. It is really very sad. Welfare may be an option for people who just don't have enough, but what about people who don't have anything?

We need to think about this and we need to take action. What I think today's society can do is find some way to start an organization with corporate support that can provide such people with money, basic necessities, and housing. Maybe then we can help these people get jobs and they can start a real life. If we try hard enough then surely we can accomplish something that will give these people hope and a chance to have a decent life.

Adapted from The Ontario Curriculum – Exemplars, Writing, 1999, p 144

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/elementary/writing18ex.pdf>



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Performance Descriptors		Needs Work	Completes task with support from practitioner	Completes task independently
B2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> writes texts to present information, summarize, express opinions, present arguments, convey ideas or persuade 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> manages unfamiliar elements (e.g. vocabulary, context, topic) to complete tasks 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> selects and uses vocabulary, tone and structure appropriate to the task 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organizes and sequences writing to communicate effectively 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses a variety of vocabulary, structures and approaches to convey main ideas with supporting details 			

This task: was successfully completed ___ needs to be tried again ___

Learner Comments

Instructor (print)

Learner Signature



Skill Building Activities

Links to online resources:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DqwzYoThUpp> (A Youtube video on persuasive opinion-based writing, includes information about structure/tone used for opinion-based essay writing);
- http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/persuasion_map/ (An interactive activity that allows learners to fill in a step-by-step map for developing persuasive writing)
- http://www.slideshare.net/warisa/writing-an-opinion-paragraph-1871051?qid=98390b45-7979-4838-921d-2228f75db146&v=qf1&b=&from_search=2 (A slideshow called “Writing An Opinion Paragraph” that contains important tips on how to plan and structure an opinion-based piece of writing)
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/writing/structure_paragraphs/activity/ (An interactive online activity related to structure/layout in paragraphs)

LearningHUB online courses available:

- **Reading & Writing, Independent Study (assigned by practitioner following assessment):**
 - Expanded Grammar Assignments 8/9/10
 - Expanded Writing Assignments 2-11
 - Writing Level 3 (“Sentence Structure 3 + Logic and Organization 3 + Business Forms 3 + Memos and Reports 3 + Meeting Documents 3”)
 - Writing A GED Essay
- **Short Courses (Moodle) – Writing the GED Essay; On the Job Report Writing**
- **Live Classes (SABA) – Writing a GED Essay**

***To access LearningHUB courses,** learners must register for the LearningHUB e-Channel program by completing the registration form on their website and completing the course selection (page 2 of the registration form): https://www.learninghub.ca/get_registered.aspx

***To Access LearningHUB Course Catalogue:**

<http://www.learninghub.ca/Files/PDF-files/HUBcoursecatalogue,%20December%2023,%202014%20revision.pdf>