

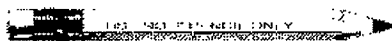
Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

Writing Topic:

Write an informational paper that examines the topic of how people learn and how they can increase their brain power. Be sure to use information from both sources in your paper.

The human brain is an amazing thing. It is what allows mankind to be different in ways other than appearances. It's what forms ideas that were then formed into any object not formed by nature alone. It is even active while we are asleep, hence dreaming. The brain improves itself by learning, exercising its natural abilities, and several other methods used by all daily.

To begin with, the brain learns by remembering knowledge and teachings received through experience or instruction. The memories of the knowledge are then stored in either short-term or long-term memory, but it is only put in long-term memory if it is considered particularly useful or important. The hippocampus is the part of the brain in charge of choosing and sorting memories. A human's ability to "choose" memories first originates from



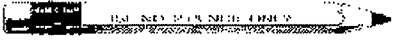
Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

their ability to be aware of their thoughts; it has been proven that humans who are more aware of their thoughts have better control over memories. The brain uses this process of choosing and storing memories to learn.

Though they may remain unnoticed, the brain is ever-changing. Previously it was thought that the brain matures until a certain age, but studies have shown the brain morphs. It alters continuously until the person's life is over; this process is called "plasticity." Learning is one of the reasons behind plasticity. Due to it, the brain is not dormant; it is constantly evolving.

However, the brain, according to studies, does not grow on its own; exercising, a good night's sleep, and optimism are key methods to improving brain power. At the American Research Institute of Human Learning, it was proven that people who exercise are more likely to have better focus. Also, at Sleep Research Studies in Hastings, Nebraska, people who received more sleep were able to

GO ON ►



Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

focus on the mental challenges given to them post-sleep. In Northampton, Maine, at Smith College, students were given tests, and it was proven that students more optimistic about the future were more likely to succeed in life. All of these factors can change the brain for the better.

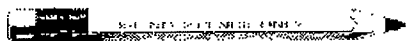
In conclusion, the human brain learns through memory, changes constantly, and improves itself through several methods. Using memory, the brain stores knowledge, it changes and adapts continuously. Studies show that exercise, sleep, and positive expectations improve the brain's abilities. The human brain truly is amazing.

OUC Score Point 4

Engaging introduction and conclusion that clearly flows from the information presented.

Transitions are appropriate and clearly link ideas.

Conclusion flows from the information presented.

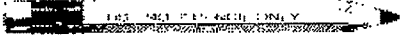
**Grade 8 WRITING Section 1****Writing Topic:**

Write an informational paper that examines the topic of how people learn and how they can increase their brain power. Be sure to use information from both sources in your paper.

Have you ever felt like you aren't intelligent? There are many ways to increase your brain power. You probably just don't know what to do. There are ways to increase and learn easier. Some people know what to do and some don't.

First, you can sleep more. More sleep means more intelligence. You can greatly increase your brain power by sleeping. Sleeping also helps you learn and pay more attention. You are also refreshed in the morning. You are more ready, if you get enough sleep.

After you wake up, you can start exercising. Exercise will also help you raise your intelligence. You can do just a little work out and it will make a difference. You will very greatly increase in your learning skills too.



Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

Most important, you have to be in a positive mood. Other than being in a negative attitude. People with better attitudes are more likely to get better grades. Better grades means a good college. A good college could get you into your dream job. You could be rich or even famous.

Those are the ways to get better at learning. You could try them, if you want to. It could make you smart and successful. These are just some of the ways to increase your intellect. Are you going to try them out or are you going to be lazy?

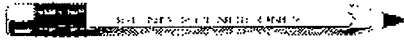
OUC Score Point 3

Introduction and topic are evident.

Text-based facts are presented in a logical progression.

Transitions link ideas.

Conclusion is apparent.

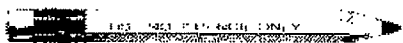


Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

Writing Topic:

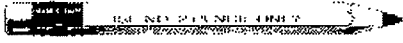
Write an informational paper that examines the topic of how people learn and how they can increase their brain power. Be sure to use information from both sources in your paper.

There are many different ways to help your brain grow, like homework, study groups, and even flashcards, you just have to push yourself to excel and grow to become a great learner. Another way to help your brain to grow is, gain as much knowledge as you can through class, community, or even at-home projects and even just doing work in class can help to expand your brain. Also you can't come into a project or test thinking you can't do it or that your going to fail, because if your thinking and worrying about failing, it most likely will make you more intensive to failing and you won't be able to



Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

think as well. Another thing is, get a lot of sleep and exercise cause you'll be more alert and ready to learn, cause your brain is constantly changing, and if your learning it's constantly growing, so you need to be active and get sleep so it will change in a positive way. The most important thing to expand your brain and make it work harder is to focus and dedicate yourself to what your learning and challenge yourself as much as possible by learning stuff from a higher grade level or age and even reading will help you to think and clear out your brain so you can learn new things and help you think cause a human has 70,000 thoughts a day so you need to be able to

**Grade 8 WRITING Section 1**

clear out you brain and think.

OUC Score Point 2

Introduction is incomplete and topic is not clearly stated.

Some text-based facts, details, and examples are presented in random fashion.

Lacks transitions.

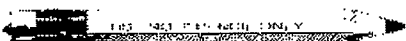
Lacks a conclusion.

Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

Writing Topic:

Write an informational paper that examines the topic of how people learn and how they can increase their brain power. Be sure to use information from both sources in your paper.

People can read to increase their brain power and to learn. People learn by doing things like work and listening. To increase your brain power you need to do different things. And you need to do stuff you don't know yet and learn how to do it. So you can learn or increase your brain power by more things you do. It is so much better if you do more than not a lot. If you don't practice then you can learn more by doing things you've never done before. And if you don't get it right the first time you can do it again. Or you can do something different but do something you don't know how to do. So you can learn how to do it.



Grade 8 WRITING Section 1

If you are young you can
learn for when you get older.
So you know what you are doing so
you don't have to ask someone.
That no it if they tell you ent
going to learn anything.

OUC Score Point 1

Lacks logical direction.
No evidence of organizational structure.