

LDC/Paideia Argumentative Module:

Task 2: Argumentative/Analysis

Module Title: The Individual and the Community: My Responsibilities in a Time of Crisis

Module Description (overview):

This is a Social Studies module that addresses the relationship between the individual and society (one and many): specifically, what are the individual's responsibilities with regard to the social good.

This module is designed to teach and assess the Core Content College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for "Speaking and Listening" (see p. 48, *Common Core*), "Reading" and "Writing," as well as the various states' middle grades geography standards.

Template Task		
Task Number, Type, and Level	Template Prompt	Completed Prompt
Task 2 Argumentative/ Analysis 6 th Grade Social Studies	[Insert essential question.] After reading _____ (literature or informational texts), write an _____ (essay or substitute) that addresses the question and support your position with evidence from the text. L2 Be sure to examine competing views. L3 Give examples from past or current events or issues to illustrate and clarify your position.	What is the proper role of the individual in response to a "disaster"? After reading various perspectives on individual responsibility and examining an interactive map of the 2010 Gulf Oil Disaster, write a letter to a younger child that addresses the question and support your position with evidence from the texts. L2 Be sure to examine competing views.

Grade(s)/Level: 6th

Discipline: social studies

Course: American History & Geography

Author(s): Laura Billings and Terry Roberts with Ross Anderson, Amy Freeman, Melissa Hedt, Nathan Marsh

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Dear friend,

Hey I hope your year has been great. I remember the trip to Jekyll Island, and I hope you are going to like it. We are working on a question in Mrs. Freeman's class. It is do you have a responsibility to respond when others are affected by a disaster? You think it is so easy right well, it isn't that easy.

I am going to be citing quotes from Dalai Lama and an 11 year old girl named Olivia Bouler. They are going to help you understand, and maybe change your mind. I used to think that I don't need to help others, but now I think after reading about these other people I think that you should try and help others no matter what race or if they are a family member or not because they are apart of the same world.

First, Dalai Lama "I try to treat whoever I meet as an old friend." This compares to my thesis because when you go somewhere you should try to treat them like you have been their friend for a long time. Don't be afraid to ask questions about how their day has been going.

Another, Dalai Lama is "Because we all share an identical need for love." I chose this because it supports what I'm trying to tell you in my thesis. It should be understandable because you can tell the attempt to try and make the reader understand people need love.

Finally, Olivia Bouler "I believe that one person can make a difference. I chose this because one person can make a difference in this world." You can be the only one helping a cause, but you will make a difference and help what cause you're trying to help.

Now you understand why these author changed my mind. It would be great if you try to change the world. There are lots of hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, etc. that happen in this world Like what Olivia Bouler said, "One person can make a difference." This world is full of different faces. So, I'm asking you to help other people in this world.

Sincerely,

Jameel 6th grader

Dear Friend,

I know you have been enjoying the first month of school. I remember chasing my friends around at recess and playing cool games in P.E. Middle school has been really different so far. We have been discussing this question "Is each of us responsible for the well being of others when a disaster happens?"

Before we discussed it and read articles about it I felt that I could not make a change and that it did not concern me because I did not live there. Afterwards I felt that I did have a part and that I could make a change. I realized it does involve me.

One of the articles we looked at was Meditation XVII by John Donne. He said, "No man is an island." This really moved me. It showed me that we are all in this together and none of us are alone. We are a whole continent and if something happens to part of it or a group of people it happens to all of us or the whole continent. So we need to help even if it did not happen to "our side".

Another piece of work was done by Dalai Lama in "Compassion and the world". "I try to treat everyone I meet as an old friend." This showed me that even if we have no idea who the person we are helping we should help. We would not let are best friend suffer or be hurt. We would do something to help. So if use this rule we will help someone we barely know as a friend we would be a big help.

Lastly, the article about Oliva Bouler. She is ten years old and she has raised millions for the oil spill rescue. She has done this by just by drawing pictures and selling them. So if we use a talent we have, just think what we could do! She has also lead other famous artist to do the same as she had.

Really hard question, right? So next time a disaster strikes don't just ignore it or think that you have no part or you can not make a change. You can help! Even if it is just donating money or doing something like Oliva B. did, it will make a change. Just because you don't know them does not mean you can not help them. So help in any way you can because a little to you means a lot to the ones you are helping.

Thanks,

Emily

September 8, 2010

Dear Friend,

How has your year been so far? I know that it's hard to get used to the new classrooms and new teachers is hard, but don't worry, the first few weeks are like that. I hope you like your teachers, personally, all of them were my favorite! Up here, we're having trouble getting used to the new schedule, where are classrooms are, and most importantly; no recess. We have so many different classes, like Language Arts, Science, Math, Social Studies, Art, and my favorite; Band.

In Mrs. Freeman's class, we're working hard to find the answer to this question, "Do we have a responsibility to respond when others are affected by a disaster?" Kind of personal, but there really is no wrong answer. We read pieces from John Donne and Dalai Lama that really gave us a different point of view.

Well, I used to think that my own responsibilities were for me and me only, (with the exception of friends and family) however, after recent events, my beliefs were changed for good. After reading about Olivia Bouler and her attempts to raise money for the animals being poisoned in the gulf, I realized that I should be more responsible for what others have done.

One piece we read was by John Donne, and he wrote, "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, apart of the main." Those words mean so much if only people would believe they were true. It means that we are never alone, all by ourselves. It means we are all one big family, one person no different than the other. If we would treat each other like that, we would have a better place to live. The entire world would be in harmony.

Another piece we seminared was by Dalai Lama, and he wrote, "Humanity is one and this small planet is our only home. We must protect it. It's the only one we have, and if we pollute it we'll all die. A young girl named Olivia Bouler has tried to help save animals being poisoned in the oil spill by raising money, and we should all follow her lead. We could also raise money for the animals in the gulf, and we just might be able to raise as much money as she has, which was about \$105,370 including donations. That would be awesome if everyone would help!

Another piece by John Donne was, "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind." This piece made me feel kind of sad, because it reminded me of loved ones that I've lost. It also reminded me that we are all the same. Making fun of someone else is just like making fun of ourselves. No one should be treated like they're different than others because of their opinion, idea, or what they believe in. We are who we are, we are the same, yet different in our own way. We are unique.

Most importantly, I think that we should all be doing what we can to make the world a better place to live. When something happens somewhere across the globe, don't just say, "Oh well. I'm glad that's not me." It could happen to you, and then no one will want to help you out, because you didn't help them when they were in the face of a disaster. We should be more

responsible for not only ourselves, but we should be more responsible for everyone else, because we are apart of mankind. Like what Dalai Lama said, "Humanity is one and this small planet is our only home." No one should be left out because we are all the same. It's time to make a difference. It's time to change the world!

Stand strong and be brave,

Jessica
6th Grader, C.S.A.S.