

Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric Reference

Understanding the Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric

Problem solution paragraph rubric serves as a guiding framework for writers aiming to craft clear, effective, and well-structured paragraphs that address specific issues and propose viable solutions. This rubric provides criteria for evaluating the quality of a problem solution paragraph, ensuring that writers include essential elements such as a clear problem statement, logical solutions, supporting evidence, and proper organization. Understanding this rubric is crucial for students, educators, and writers who seek to improve their writing skills, particularly in expository and argumentative writing. By adhering to the rubric, writers can produce paragraphs that are coherent, persuasive, and aligned with academic or professional standards.

The Purpose of a Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric

Promoting Clarity and Focus

The rubric emphasizes the importance of clearly defining the problem at hand. A well-constructed paragraph should specify the issue, making it easy for readers to understand what is being addressed. Clarity ensures that the proposed solutions are relevant and targeted.

Ensuring Logical Flow

Effective problem solution paragraphs follow a logical sequence, guiding the reader from identification of the problem to the presentation of solutions. The rubric assesses the organization and coherence of ideas, encouraging writers to connect their points seamlessly.

Encouraging Evidence-Based Solutions

Solutions should be supported by facts, examples, or reasoning. The rubric highlights the need for credible evidence to persuade the reader of the feasibility and effectiveness of proposed solutions.

Key Components of the Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric

1. Clear Identification of the Problem

- **Specificity:** The problem should be described precisely, avoiding vague language.
- **Relevance:** The issue addressed must be significant and worthy of attention.

- **Placement:** Usually introduced at the beginning of the paragraph.

2. Logical Presentation of Solutions

- **Feasibility:** Solutions should be realistic and achievable.
- **Variety:** Presenting multiple options can demonstrate thorough analysis.
- **Order:** Solutions should be presented in a logical sequence, possibly from simplest to most complex or most effective to least.

3. Supporting Evidence and Explanation

- **Examples:** Use concrete examples to illustrate how solutions could work.
- **Statistics or Data:** Incorporate relevant data to strengthen arguments.
- **Expert Opinions:** When appropriate, cite authorities or credible sources.

4. Clear and Cohesive Organization

- **Topic Sentence:** Begins with a sentence that introduces the problem or the solutions.
- **Supporting Sentences:** Develop ideas with details, evidence, and explanations.
- **Concluding Sentence:** Summarizes the main idea or emphasizes the importance of the solutions.

5. Proper Language and Style

- **Formal Tone:** Use appropriate academic or professional language.
- **Clarity and Precision:** Avoid vague or ambiguous expressions.
- **Transitions:** Use transitional words to connect ideas smoothly.

Detailed Breakdown of the Rubric Criteria

Content Accuracy and Completeness

Writers should ensure that the paragraph fully addresses the problem and presents comprehensive solutions. Missing key points or providing superficial explanations can weaken the paragraph's effectiveness.

Organization and Structure

The paragraph must have a logical flow, with each sentence building on the previous one. Proper use of topic sentences, supporting details, and concluding statements helps maintain clarity.

Evidence and Support

Supporting evidence lends credibility to the proposed solutions. The rubric evaluates whether the evidence is relevant, sufficient, and effectively integrated into the paragraph.

Language and Style

Effective use of language enhances readability and persuasiveness. The rubric assesses grammatical accuracy, vocabulary, sentence variety, and appropriate tone.

Common Errors to Avoid According to the Rubric

- Failing to specify what issue is being addressed.
- Proposing solutions without supporting details or justification.
- Jumping between ideas without logical sequencing.
- Making broad claims without specifics.
- Using slang or casual expressions inappropriate for academic writing.
- Repeating ideas unnecessarily or over-explaining.

How to Use the Rubric for Self-Assessment and Improvement

Step-by-Step Approach

- **Identify the criteria:** Review the key components outlined in the rubric.
- **Evaluate your paragraph:** Use the rubric as a checklist to assess each element.
- **Seek feedback:** Share your paragraph with peers or instructors for additional perspectives.
- **Revise accordingly:** Address weaknesses identified through the rubric evaluation.

Benefits of Using the Rubric

- Enhances clarity and focus in writing.
- Develops critical thinking skills by analyzing the effectiveness of solutions.
- Prepares students for standardized assessments and academic writing standards.
- Encourages self-reflection and continuous improvement.

Conclusion: Mastering the Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric

Mastering the problem solution paragraph rubric is essential for crafting compelling and well-structured writing. It serves as both a guiding tool during the writing process and an evaluative standard for assessing quality. By understanding and applying the criteria—such as clear problem identification, logical solutions, supporting evidence, organization, and appropriate language—writers can produce paragraphs that are persuasive, coherent, and impactful. Whether for academic assignments, professional reports, or personal writing, a strong grasp of this rubric not only improves individual writing skills but also enhances overall communication effectiveness. Regular practice and self-assessment using the rubric can lead to significant improvements, making the writer more confident and capable of addressing complex issues with clarity and precision.

Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric: A Comprehensive Guide for Effective Writing

In the realm of academic and professional writing, clarity and coherence are paramount. One of the most critical components that exemplify these qualities is the problem-solution paragraph. When crafted effectively, it not only identifies an issue but also proposes a viable remedy, guiding the reader through a logical flow of thought. Understanding how to structure this paragraph according to a well-defined rubric ensures that your writing meets academic standards and communicates your ideas convincingly. This article explores the intricacies of the problem-solution paragraph rubric, offering insights into crafting impactful paragraphs that effectively address issues and solutions.

What Is a Problem Solution Paragraph?

Before delving into the rubric, it's essential to clarify what constitutes a problem-solution paragraph. At its core, this paragraph aims to:

- Identify a specific problem or challenge.
- Explain the significance or impact of the problem.
- Propose a feasible solution or set of solutions.
- Support the solution(s) with evidence or reasoning.

A well-structured problem-solution paragraph guides the reader from understanding an issue to considering how it can be addressed, promoting clarity and persuasive communication.

The Importance of a Clear Rubric in Writing

A rubric serves as a set of guidelines or criteria that help writers craft their paragraphs systematically. For problem-solution paragraphs, a rubric ensures that:

- The problem is explicitly defined.
- The significance of the problem is articulated.
- The proposed solution(s) are relevant and realistic.
- The paragraph maintains coherence, logical flow, and proper mechanics.

Adhering to a rubric elevates the quality of your writing and makes your arguments more compelling and credible.

Core Components of a Problem Solution Paragraph Rubric

A comprehensive problem-solution paragraph rubric comprises several key elements. Understanding and applying these elements ensures that your paragraph is well-structured and impactful.

- Topic Sentence: Introducing the Problem

The paragraph must begin with a clear topic sentence that states the problem explicitly. This sentence sets the tone and informs the reader about the issue at hand.

Rubric Criteria:

- Clearly identifies the problem.
- Is specific, avoiding vague or broad statements.
- Connects logically to the subsequent explanation.

Example:

"One of the most pressing issues in urban areas is the rising level of air pollution, which adversely affects residents' health and quality of life."

- Explanation of the Problem: Context and Significance

Following the topic sentence, the paragraph should elaborate on the problem by providing context and explaining its importance. This helps the reader understand why the issue warrants attention.

Rubric Criteria:

- Provides relevant details or statistics.
- Explains the impact of the problem on individuals or society.
- Maintains coherence with the topic sentence.

Example:

"Studies show that air pollution contributes to respiratory diseases, increases healthcare costs, and diminishes overall urban livability."

- Transition to the Solution: Linking Problem to Remedy

A smooth transition that signals the shift from problem to solution is vital. This may involve phrases like "to address this issue," or "one potential remedy is."

Rubric Criteria:

- Creates logical flow.
- Prepares the reader for the proposed solution.

Example:

"To mitigate these adverse effects, implementing stricter emissions regulations is a promising approach."

- Presentation of the Solution: Clear and Specific

The core of the paragraph is the proposed solution(s). It should be described clearly, with enough detail to demonstrate its feasibility.

Rubric Criteria:

- States the solution explicitly.
- Explains how it addresses the problem.
- Considers the practicality and potential effectiveness.

Example:

"Enforcing stricter vehicle emission standards can significantly reduce pollutants, leading to cleaner air and improved public health."

- Supporting Evidence or Reasoning

To strengthen the argument, provide evidence, examples, or logical reasoning that supports the effectiveness of the solution.

Rubric Criteria:

- Incorporates relevant data, case studies, or expert opinions.
- Demonstrates the solution's potential impact.
- Addresses possible challenges or limitations, if applicable.

Example:

"Cities that have adopted such standards, like Stockholm, have seen measurable improvements in air quality and reductions in respiratory illnesses."

- Concluding Sentence: Reinforcing the Solution

A strong closing sentence reinforces the proposed solution or suggests next steps, leaving a lasting impression.

Rubric Criteria:

- Summarizes the solution's benefits.
- Encourages further thought or action.

Example:

"Therefore, adopting stringent emissions policies is a critical step toward creating healthier urban environments."

Applying the Rubric: Step-by-Step

To craft a high-quality problem-solution paragraph aligned with the rubric, follow these steps:

- Identify the Problem Clearly: Start with a precise topic sentence.
- Explain the Context: Add details that highlight the problem's importance.
- Transition to the Solution: Use linking phrases to connect problem and remedy.
- Describe the Solution: Be specific about what can be done.
- Support with Evidence: Incorporate data, examples, or reasoning.
- Conclude Effectively: End with a sentence reinforcing the solution's value.

Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

Even with a clear rubric, writers may encounter challenges. Here are some common pitfalls and tips to avoid them:

- Vague Problem Statements: Be specific. Instead of "pollution is bad," specify "air pollution from vehicle emissions in downtown areas."
- Lack of Supporting Evidence: Always back up claims with facts or examples.
- Overly Broad Solutions: Focus on feasible, targeted remedies rather than vague ideas.
- Poor Transitions: Use transitional phrases to maintain logical flow.
- Weak Conclusion: End with a compelling statement that emphasizes the solution's importance.

Enhancing Your Problem Solution Paragraphs

Beyond following the rubric, consider these strategies to improve your writing:

- Use Varied Sentence Structures: Keep the reader engaged.
- Maintain Clarity: Avoid jargon unless necessary, and define technical terms.
- Be Concise: Stick to relevant details; avoid wordiness.
- Revise and Edit: Review your paragraph for coherence, mechanics, and adherence to the rubric.

The Role of the Rubric in Different Contexts

While the rubric outlined here is tailored for academic writing, its principles are applicable across various contexts:

- Professional Reports: Clearly presenting problems and solutions can influence decision-making.
- Persuasive Essays: Effectively addressing issues persuades audiences.
- Public Policy Proposals: Precise problem and solution articulation aids advocacy.

Adapting the rubric to suit specific genres or audiences ensures your writing remains effective and appropriate.

Final Thoughts

Understanding and applying a well-structured problem solution paragraph rubric elevates your writing from mere description to compelling advocacy. It ensures that each paragraph is purpose-driven, logically organized, and persuasive. Whether you're drafting an essay, a report, or a proposal, mastering the art of crafting effective problem-solution paragraphs is a vital skill that enhances your communication clarity and credibility. By systematically addressing each component of the rubric, you can create paragraphs that not only inform but also inspire action and change.

Question What is a problem solution paragraph rubric? A problem solution paragraph rubric is a scoring guide used to evaluate how well a paragraph addresses a specific problem and proposes effective solutions, often outlining criteria like clarity, organization, and evidence. **Why is using a rubric important for writing problem solution paragraphs?** Using a rubric helps students understand the expectations, improves the quality of their writing, and ensures consistent grading by providing clear criteria for assessing their problem identification, solution proposals, and supporting details. **What are common components assessed in a problem solution paragraph rubric?** Common components include the clarity of the problem statement, relevance and feasibility of the proposed solution, organization and coherence, supporting evidence, and proper paragraph structure. **How can a teacher create an effective problem solution paragraph rubric?** An effective rubric should clearly define criteria, include specific descriptors for different levels of achievement, and align with learning objectives to guide students and facilitate fair assessment. **What are some tips for students to meet the rubric standards in their problem solution paragraphs?** Students should clearly identify the problem, propose realistic solutions, organize ideas logically, support claims with evidence, and follow proper paragraph structure as outlined in the rubric. **How does a problem solution paragraph rubric improve student writing skills?** It provides targeted feedback, helps students understand expectations, and encourages them to develop their analytical and organizational skills through clear criteria and self-assessment. **Can a problem solution paragraph rubric be adapted for different grade levels?** Yes, rubrics can be customized to suit different age groups and skill levels by adjusting complexity, detail, and expectations to match students' developmental stages. **What are common mistakes students make when writing problem solution paragraphs assessed by the rubric?** Common mistakes include vague problem descriptions, unrealistic solutions, lack of supporting evidence, poor organization, and failure to follow paragraph conventions. **How can feedback from a problem solution paragraph rubric be used for improvement?** Feedback highlights strengths and areas for growth, guiding students to refine their problem identification, develop more practical solutions, and improve overall clarity and coherence in their writing.

Related keywords: problem-solving, paragraph writing, rubric criteria, assessment, writing standards, grading rubric, solution paragraph, writing guidelines, evaluation criteria, academic

writing

problem and solution short passages 6th grade

problem and solution short passages 6th grade are essential tools for young students to develop their reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills. These passages help students identify issues within a story or real-life scenario and think creatively about how to resolve them. In the 6th grade, students are at a crucial stage where they can begin to understand more complex texts and practice summarizing information concisely. This article explores the importance of problem and solution short passages for 6th graders, provides strategies for teaching and learning these skills, and offers example passages to enhance understanding.

Understanding Problem and Solution Short Passages for 6th Graders

What Are Problem and Solution Passages?

Problem and solution passages are a type of reading comprehension text that presents a specific issue or challenge (the problem) and then discusses one or more ways to resolve or address the issue (the solution). These passages are designed to help students practice identifying key elements within a story or informational text.

Key features of problem and solution passages include:

- Clear presentation of a problem or challenge.
- Multiple potential or actual solutions.
- Explanation of how solutions work or why they are effective.
- Contextual clues to help identify parts of the passage.

Why Are They Important for 6th Grade Students?

For 6th graders, mastering problem and solution passages supports several academic and cognitive skills:

- Enhances reading comprehension by focusing on main ideas and details.
- Develops critical thinking by analyzing how problems are addressed.
- Prepares students for more complex texts in later grades.

- Builds writing skills through summarizing and explaining solutions.
- Encourages problem-solving attitudes applicable in real life.

Strategies for Teaching Problem and Solution Passages to 6th Graders

Teaching 6th graders how to effectively understand and write problem and solution passages involves engaging activities, guided practice, and scaffolded instruction. Here are some effective strategies:

1. Use Visual Aids and Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers help students visually map the problem and solutions within a passage. Examples include:

- T-charts labeled "Problem" and "Solution."
- Cause-and-effect diagrams.
- Story maps highlighting the problem and resolution.

2. Practice Guided Reading

Read passages aloud as a class, pausing to discuss:

- What the problem is.
- Possible or actual solutions.
- How the solution addresses the problem.

3. Encourage Questioning

Ask students targeted questions:

- What is the main problem in this passage?
- How do the characters try to solve the problem?
- Why do you think the solution worked or didn't work?

4. Have Students Write Their Own Passages

Students can practice creating their own problem and solution passages by:

- Writing about personal experiences.
- Creating stories with clear problems and resolutions.
- Summarizing existing stories or articles.

5. Incorporate Real-Life Scenarios

Use real-world problems relevant to students' lives to make learning meaningful, such as:

- Bullying at school.
- Environmental issues.
- Family conflicts.

Examples of Problem and Solution Short Passages for 6th Grade

Below are sample passages suitable for 6th-grade learners to practice identifying problems and solutions.

Example 1: School Lunch Issue

Problem:

Many students at Lincoln Middle School didn't enjoy the new lunch menu. The food was cold, and students felt it didn't taste good.

Solution:

The school cafeteria staff asked students for feedback and started offering a variety of popular dishes. They also improved food storage to keep meals warm.

Discussion:

Students can identify the problem as dissatisfaction with school lunches and the solution as gathering feedback and improving food quality.

Example 2: Lost Pet

Problem:

Emma's family's dog, Max, ran away during a walk in the park. Emma was worried because Max was not used to being outside alone.

Solution:

Emma and her family put up flyers around the neighborhood and checked local shelters. Soon, someone recognized Max and called them.

Discussion:

In this passage, the problem is Max running away, and the solution involves community help and searching efforts.

Example 3: Road Construction Delay

Problem:

The main road to the town was closed for construction, making it difficult for residents to get to work and school.

Solution:

The city authorities set up a detour route and shared updates through local radio and signs to help drivers find alternative paths.

Discussion:

The problem is the road closure, and the solution is providing detours and communication to minimize inconvenience.

Tips for Creating Effective Problem and Solution Passages

When designing your own passages or helping students write them, keep these tips in mind:

Key points for effective passages:

- Clearly state the problem at the beginning.
- Use descriptive details to make the problem relatable.
- Offer logical and feasible solutions.
- Include transitional words like "because," "so," "therefore," to connect ideas.
- End with a summary or a reflection on the effectiveness of the solution.

Practice Activities to Reinforce Learning

To help 6th graders master problem and solution short passages, consider incorporating these activities:

- Story Mapping: Students read a passage and fill out a story map highlighting the problem and solutions.
- Group Discussions: Small groups analyze passages and discuss possible alternative solutions.
- Writing Exercises: Students write their own problem and solution stories based on prompts.
- Quiz Games: Use quizzes to identify problems and solutions in various texts.

Conclusion

Problem and solution short passages are powerful educational tools for 6th grade students. They not only improve reading comprehension but also foster critical thinking and problem-solving skills. By understanding how to recognize problems and think about effective solutions, students become better prepared for academic challenges and real-life situations. Teachers and parents can support this learning by providing engaging activities, clear examples, and opportunities for creative writing. With consistent practice, 6th graders will develop confidence in analyzing texts and expressing their ideas clearly and effectively.

Remember: The key to mastering problem and solution passages is practice, discussion, and application. Encourage students to look for problems and solutions everywhere—from stories and articles to everyday life—and watch their skills grow!

Problem and Solution Short Passages 6th Grade: A Guide to Developing Critical Reading Skills

Introduction

Problem and solution short passages 6th grade is a fundamental component of reading comprehension education at this level. As students transition into middle school, they encounter more complex texts that require not only understanding the main idea but also analyzing the structure of the passage. One common format that educators emphasize is the problem and solution passage. These passages help students develop critical thinking by identifying challenges and understanding how they are addressed. This article explores what problem and solution passages are, why they are important for 6th-grade learners, and practical strategies to improve skills in reading and analyzing these types of texts.

What Are Problem and Solution Short Passages?

Defining the Structure

Problem and solution passages are a specific type of informational text that presents a challenge and then offers one or more ways to resolve it. They are designed to help students recognize how authors organize information and to develop their ability to identify key ideas quickly.

Key Characteristics:

- Introduction of a Problem: The passage begins by describing an issue or challenge that needs attention.
- Explanation of the Problem: Details about why the problem exists and its impact.
- Proposed Solutions: The text then discusses possible ways to solve or address the problem.
- Resolution or Conclusion: Often, the passage ends with the most effective solution or a summary of how the problem is resolved.

Example:

Imagine a paragraph about a neighborhood with a lot of litter. It explains how trash affects wildlife and the community's health. Then, it discusses solutions such as organizing cleanup events and installing trash bins. The passage ends by emphasizing the importance of community effort.

Why Are Problem and Solution Passages Important for 6th Graders?

Developing Critical Thinking

At the 6th-grade level, students are expanding their vocabulary and comprehension skills. Recognizing the problem-solution structure helps them:

- Understand Cause and Effect: See how problems lead to certain consequences and how solutions can prevent or fix issues.
- Enhance Analytical Skills: Identify the main ideas and supporting details.
- Improve Writing Skills: Learn how to structure their own writing logically.

Real-World Relevance

These passages mirror real-life situations, such as solving community issues, personal challenges, or environmental problems. By mastering this reading skill, students become better equipped to analyze situations critically and contribute thoughtfully to discussions.

Challenges Students Face with Problem and Solution Passages

While these passages are valuable, students often encounter difficulties such as:

- Identifying the Problem: Sometimes, the problem is implied rather than explicitly stated.
- Distinguishing Between Multiple Solutions: Recognizing which solution is most effective or emphasized.
- Understanding Vocabulary: Complex words or technical terms can hinder comprehension.
- Connecting Ideas: Linking the problem with its solution requires careful reading and analysis.

Recognizing these challenges is the first step toward developing effective strategies to overcome them.

Strategies to Improve Reading and Comprehension of Problem and Solution Passages

- Teach Signal Words and Phrases

Signal words help students identify parts of the passage. Examples include:

- Problem indicators: "The issue is," "The challenge," "A common problem."
- Solution indicators: "To solve this," "One way to fix it," "The solution is."

- Use Graphic Organizers

Visual tools aid in breaking down the passage:

- Problem-Solution Charts: Students can record the problem and note each proposed solution.
- Flowcharts: Show the progression from identifying a problem to implementing a solution.
- Mind Maps: Connect related ideas and solutions visually.

- Practice Summarization

Encourage students to paraphrase each section:

- Restate the problem in their own words.
- Summarize the proposed solutions.

- Conclude with the overall resolution.

This deepens understanding and retention.

- Ask Guided Questions

Use targeted questions to activate critical thinking:

- What is the main problem discussed?
- Why is this problem important?
- What solutions are suggested?
- Which solution do you think is the best? Why?
- How does this passage relate to real life?

- Build Vocabulary Skills

Introduce new words within context and practice using them in sentences. Understanding key terms makes comprehension smoother.

Classroom Activities to Reinforce Skills

Interactive Read-Alouds

Read problem and solution passages aloud, pausing to discuss key points and signal words.

Identify and Highlight

Provide students with texts where they highlight problem and solution phrases, fostering close reading.

Group Discussions

Small groups analyze a passage together, identifying problems and solutions, then share findings with the class.

Writing Practice

Have students write their own problem-solution paragraphs about issues they care about, reinforcing

structure and comprehension.

Examples of Problem and Solution Passages for 6th Grade

Sample Passage 1:

Problem: Many students in the school cafeteria waste food because they don't finish their meals.

Solution: The school can implement a "finish your plate" campaign and donate leftovers to local shelters.

Outcome: These actions help reduce waste and support community members in need.

Sample Passage 2:

Problem: The local park is overrun with litter, making it unpleasant for visitors.

Solution: Organizing monthly cleanup days and installing more trash bins encourage visitors to keep the park clean.

Outcome: A cleaner park becomes more inviting and safe for everyone.

Conclusion

Mastering problem and solution short passages is a vital skill for 6th-grade students. It enhances their ability to analyze texts critically, understand cause-and-effect relationships, and develop logical thinking. By learning to identify key signal words, using graphic organizers, practicing summarization, and engaging in interactive activities, students can become confident readers capable of tackling complex informational texts. These skills not only support academic success but also prepare them to navigate real-world challenges with insight and problem-solving abilities. As educators and parents, fostering these skills early lays the foundation for lifelong critical thinking and effective communication.

QuestionAnswer What is a problem and solution short passage? A problem and solution short passage is a short text that explains a problem and then describes how it can be solved. Why is it important to understand problem and solution passages? Understanding these passages helps you improve reading comprehension and learn how problems can be fixed in real life. How can I identify the problem in a passage? Look for sentences that describe an issue or something that is going wrong; these often start with words like 'problem,' 'issue,' or 'difficulty.' What clues indicate the solution in a problem and solution passage? Solutions are usually described after the problem, often starting with words like 'to fix,' 'solution,' 'so,' or 'therefore.' Can you give an example of a problem

and solution short passage? Yes. Example: 'Many students forget their homework. To solve this, students can use a planner or remind themselves before leaving school.' How can I practice identifying problems and solutions in passages? Practice by reading short stories or articles and underlining the problem and solution parts. Then, check if you identified them correctly. What are some common words used in problem and solution passages? Common words include 'problem,' 'issue,' 'difficulty,' 'solution,' 'fix,' 'answer,' and 'therefore.' Why are problem and solution passages useful in everyday life? They help you understand how to think about problems and find ways to solve them in situations like school, home, or with friends. What should I do if I can't find the solution in a passage? Try reading the passage carefully again and look for sentences that suggest how the problem can be fixed or improved. How can teachers help students understand problem and solution passages better? Teachers can provide examples, ask questions about the passages, and have students practice identifying problems and solutions regularly.

Related keywords: problem-solving, short passages, 6th grade reading, comprehension, solutions, reading skills, text analysis, critical thinking, practice passages, educational resources

Read the full article online: [Problem and solution short passages 6th grade](#)