

## **SAMPLE #2**

This essay fails to demonstrate many of the qualities that the English instructors at Highland Community College look for in a short writing sample.

First, the opening paragraph is one sentence, stating an obvious fact rather than taking a position. The student continues to indent but without a sense of the components of a traditional paragraph. For example, paragraph two begins with an example not in support of a main point.

The student also fails to develop a clear argument. For example, paragraph 3 and 4 make general statements but include no specific support. Instead of working to develop an idea with supporting detail, the student introduces a new thesis in paragraph 6, that the media informs the public about diet. The final two paragraphs demonstrate repetition of general ideas rather than conclusion or summary of a focused stance.

Finally, the student's writing includes a variety of errors. Paragraphs 3, 5, and 6 include sentence fragments. Other errors include apostrophe use, subject verb agreement, phrasing ("informs us on..."), and proofreading ("the convince," "suppose" rather than "supposed)."

This student would be required to take Preface to Rhetoric prior to English 121.

In today's society, the media informs us on what is happening in the world. An example would be President Bill Clinton and the Monica Lewinsky issue. The President has been given a bad name and a bad name and a bad image. People wanted Clinton to be impeached when they found out what was going on between the President and Miss Lewinsky.

Many people from the public didn't consider that what the media was saying wasn't all true. The public just assumes that whatever the media say is true. When actually, some of this information is just hear say or rumors.

Although many of the stories that people heard were rumors, some of the information was true. The President didn't help by lying to the media and to the public. The media helped the President to convince the public that Monica was the one not telling the truth.

The media has a major impact on what the public believes and does not believe. Especially when it comes to the President. The media influences the public on many other topics that are of concern in the world.

Another topic that the media informs the public about is diet. Magazines and radios are always talking about how this is in. This raises a problem. Females of all ages are taking this issue to the extremes. Some are taking it so far that they either come close to dieing or else they do. These females are getting it in their heads that if they aren't thin, then they aren't beautiful. When actually, it doesn't matter what you look like but how you act and treat others.

The media can influence people in either positive or negative ways. Usually it is negative. The way the public looks at issues and what is right or wrong or how things are suppose to be, depends a lot on how the media informs the public. The media plays a major role in determining the standards in the world today.

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