

Coming Of Age → Through Literature

Coming of Age stories allow readers to witness characters moving from childhood to adulthood. They remind us that while growing up isn't always easy, the pursuit of dreams makes it worth the journey.

Write an opinion essay describing which novel best represented the *Coming of Age* theme. Support your opinion with at least three details or reasons. Strengthen your opinion by including specific examples and/or quotes from the story or stories. You must publish your writing online with the ultimate goal of persuading others to agree with your position.

Your writing will be assessed using the Opinion Writing Rubric.

Opinion Writing Checklist:

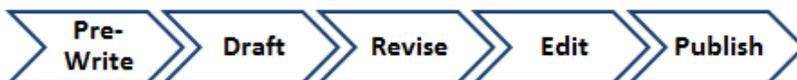
- My opening statement is engaging and clearly states my opinion.
- I organized my writing into paragraphs (introduction, body paragraphs, & conclusion).
- I provided reasons for my position and used specific examples from the text to make my point.
- I linked opinions and reasons using words, phrases and clauses (ex: specifically, consequently).
- My conclusion persuades the audience that the book I chose is the best *Coming of Age* novel.
- I have expanded, combined, & reduced sentences to make them more interesting to the reader.
- I have checked my writing to ensure correct use of the following:
 - Capitalization & End Punctuation
 - Correct Punctuation of Titles
 - Quotation Marks to Indicate Direct Quotes from Texts
 - Commas

Name: _____

Opinion Writing

Points Possible	Requirement	Points Earned
40	<p><u>IDEAS</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I clearly and thoroughly introduced a topic and explained my opinion on that topic.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I included facts, definitions, details, quotations, and/or examples to support my opinion.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I stayed focused and have not included unimportant details.</p>	
10	<p><u>Organization</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I logically ordered my writing by first explaining my opinion and then supporting my opinion with extra details using words such as “consequently,” “because of this,” & “specifically.”</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I organized my writing into paragraphs.</p>	
10	<p><u>Voice</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I made it clear that I have an opinion & I have tried to persuade the audience that I am correct.</p>	
10	<p><u>Word Choice</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I used essential vocabulary to persuade my audience.</p>	
10	<p><u>Sentence Fluency</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> My writing sounds perfect when I read aloud.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I wrote in complete sentences without any run-ons.</p>	
10	<p><u>Conventions</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> I used correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling.</p>	
10	<p><u>Presentation</u></p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> The presentation of the text enhances the message.</p>	

Writing Process



Editing	✓	Date	Teacher / Student Conference	
Self-Edit: I have used the checklist/rubric to edit my work.			Yes	No
Peer-Edit: _____ used the checklist/rubric to edit my writing.			Teacher Initials	Date
			Revision Decision	

Teacher Comments