

Lesson G: Improving the Marine Soundscape

Assignment Option One: Write a Letter

Throughout this lesson, you have explored the question: “How can improvements be made to the soundscape of marine mammals through action, legislation, and information?” Using what you know, or additional information from a variety of sources, write a letter that would make a difference. Make sure you include facts, statistics, examples, or experiences to support your ideas.

Be sure to address the following in your letter:

- ☐ Where will you send the letter?
 - Magazine or specialty publication
 - Newspaper
 - Person of influence, such as a CEO (chief executive officer of a company), politician, or public figure
- ☐ What issue do you want addressed, and what evidence will you use to validate your opinion?
- ☐ What response do you expect, and what value will that response bring to the recipient?

Category	4	3	2	1
Focus and intent.	The focus and intent is clearly outlined and the work stays on topic.	The focus is stated, but not completely followed.	The focus is difficult to discern within the work.	The focus is unknown.
Supporting evidence..	Includes three or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, or experiences) that support ideas. The writer anticipates the reader's arguments and provides counter-arguments.	Includes three or more pieces of evidence (facts, statistics, examples, experiences) that support the writer's ideas.	Includes two pieces of evidence that support the writer's ideas.	Includes one piece of evidence and it may be questionable.
Audience.	Demonstrates a clear understanding of the potential reader and uses appropriate vocabulary and arguments.	Demonstrates general understanding of the potential reader and uses vocabulary and arguments to support these ideas.	Demonstrates some understanding of the reader, but occasionally provides arguments that are unsuitable for the audience.	It is not clear who the author is writing for.
Evidence and examples.	All of the evidence is specific, relevant, and includes examples of how each piece of evidence supports the author's position.	Most of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant, and show how each piece of evidence supports the author's position.	At least one piece of evidence provided, and examples are relevant and show evidence of support for the author's position.	Evidence and examples are not relevant, nor are they explained.
Sources	Source information collected for all elements, including quotations and is presented in the proper format.	Sources are collected for most sources and are in the required format.	Sources are collected, though some may be missing, and they are not in the required format.	Very little source information included.

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Letter has been proofread for spelling, grammar, and accuracy, and includes name and date.	No mistakes.	1-2 mistakes.	2-4 mistakes.	Many mistakes are evident.
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