



































Writing Topic:

Animals can be entertaining, caring, and helpful. Some animals assist people with day-to-day activities while others are members of the military or a police force. After reading these passages, write an opinion about how you think animals could be useful in a community, a school, or a place of work. Be sure to state your opinion and support it using information presented in both passages.

### Grade 5 Opinion - 4

In my opinion helpers are a great thing to have. Whether in schools, police and military forces, communities, or place of work. If we had helper dogs in schools across America they might be able to help warn when an intruder is in the building, or things of that sort.

#### Helpers in a community

I think it's a great thing to have helpers in communities, because helpers can patrol areas and help keep residences safe. K-9s are very helpful in communities. They can help keep the elderly safe in and out of their homes. They can help keep children safe while playing in their communities. Miniature horses can also be useful in a community. They can let someone that might be weak and have trouble standing but weight on the horse for support.

#### Military and Police Force Helpers

In my opinion it's awesome to have animals on different forces today. It's amazing what animals can be trained to do. It is very sad that the military used to treat K-9 helpers like machines, but I am very glad that changed. It is very cool that the helpers are treated just like a regular officer of the armed forces. It is also very cool that horses are apart of police forces across America today. K-9s are very important helpers in police and military today. It is very important that we keep our helpers safe.

#### K-9 Helpers at School

K-9 helpers are a very good helper to have around. It would be a very good thing to have helper dogs at school, because they could be like an alarm system. Maybe for when there is an intruder, maybe a student has drugs or a gun. Also they could help out

on the playground to, maybe it could make sure there were not any tobacco uses, or things like that. K-9 helpers could maybe help walk kids home or make sure they go to the right place.

#### Helpers at Work

Helpers at work would be a great thing- I think the ferret would be the best, because they are small. They could help warn the person if they were about to have a seizure; It could also warn other employees so they might could help that person.

With all that said all helpers are important. Without them the world might not be what it is today.

Score Point 4 ID: 1594359591

The response maintains a clear focus and ideas are fully developed. The opinion is clear and focused on how animals are useful in schools, by police or military forces, in communities, or places of work. Ideas are fully developed with the use of relevant text-based facts and examples about K-9s, miniature horses, and ferrets. The student clearly summarizes information and expresses an insightful perspective when commenting on key examples --(help when an intruder is in the building, keep elderly and children safe, also warn other employees, world might not be what it is today). The introduction quickly establishes a positive opinion, and supporting evidence is strongly presented with effective sequencing and transition. Word choice conveys meaning; language is effective and connects to the audience with a positive tone supporting the importance of animal helpers. Varied sentence structure is mostly correct, but the writing demonstrates errors in usage (are/our, weather/whether, there/their) and mechanics; however, they do not overtly impeded with the overall purpose for writing.

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**Grade 5 Opinion - 3**

I think animals are vary helpful. Their used in every day activities, Their also used in, the police, Navy, U.S. marines, and in other armed forces.

In the armed forces animals like dogs, and horses are used to send orders and ammuniton to people on the first line. The dogs also help the Military find Osama bin ladin in 2011. A dog named Buster saved 17 men and helped defeat the Japanese. A horse named Reckless was in the Korean war delvering messages to soilders beond communication lines and was promoted to Sergeant by the U.S. Marines.

Animals are also used in the police force. Their used to find drugs. There also used to find people under debris or rocks from landslides or explosions. Horses are used to patrol the parks or wooded areas where cars can't go because there so big.

Animals are also good companions for people with disabilities. Farrets are good because the can sense when seizures are about to happen. They can warn their owner by making asound so the owner can take medicen or get to asafe place before it happens.

Their also used in every day activities They can be used to play with kids out side or just to sit down and relaxe. So I do think animals are varey helpful. They can do stuff that people can't do.

Score Point 3 ID: 1594323733

The student addresses the prompt and has developed three ways that animals can be helpful: military use, police force, and every day in the community for disabled individuals. Evidence is adequately selected from both passages to support the writer's ideas. Ideas are somewhat developed as the opportunity to elaborate on the important work performed by animals would further connect to the task. For example, there is a lack of the heroic details associated with Buster and Reckless's actions during their service. The introduction and conclusion are appropriate and succinctly give the opinion. The response is logically sequenced, and a general coherence is found with limited transitions. Word choice is general and appropriate. Sentence structure is correct, and the writing demonstrates adequate control of grammar, usage (their/there/they are), and mechanics; minor errors are noticeable but do not affect readability.

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**Grade 5 Opinion - 2**

People around the world use animals for different things. The police force and military use them and [illegible] people use them. I think there are plenty things a dog or horse can do in a community, school, or place of work.

You can use a dog in a community to help the blind or ill. Or a dog can keep kids safe at school when their coming or leaving school or at resusse. You can use dogs at a place of work like police force or military. So over all animals are very useful they are not just here to be entertaining, they are also sweet caring and helpful. I think everybody should have an animal so you can look after each other.

So there you go you have my opinion about a animals. I think animals are just not fun, but they help us so very much. From military to helping the ill or blind. Dogs and other animals are life savers. Animals are lifesavers because, Buster saved seventeens men in his actions

Score Point 2 ID: 1593029629

Content is inconsistent for the task. The writing has an unclear focus; it begins with an opinion on dogs and the examples are minimally developed --examples of where a dog may be used are listed (community, school, police, or military) but little detail is given to how they are useful helpers (ill and blind). The response demonstrates weak unity and coherence; introduction and conclusion (unclear attempt with a statement about Buster) are ineffective; there is an attempt at a little sequencing; and transitions are present but simplistic (Or and So.) Word choice lacks precision and variety; language is simplistic and conveys a basic meaning: "I think animals are just not fun, but they help us so very much." There is limited variety of structures, with most sentences taking repetitive forms (You can, I think, and So there). Limited control of grammar, usage, and mechanics is demonstrated with errors in usage and mechanics being most prevalent.

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### Grade 5 Opinion - 1

Why animals are  
important

I think that animals would be good for helping in side and out side. Helping my dad out side, my mom,grampa and me. in side.

The reason is because my dad can't do big jobs hinselve. Mom, grampa, and me are stuck in the house most of the time. My grampa can't do very much stuf and where busy doing other chors.

We need we need the hole famaily helped out. That is why I think animals are important because they help out.

Score Point 1 ID: 1594188595

The response has a confusing focus to the task. The content is inappropriate to the purpose for writing; it does not address how animals are useful in a community, school, or a place of work. The student gives the opinion that animals would be good for helping. Ideas, centered to personal family reasons, are sparse and lack development. There is no evidence elicited from the passages in support of the opinion. The response shows a little evidence of organization. The concluding sentence reiterates the opening opinion appropriately for grade level, but a lack of transition contributes to minimal overall coherence. The word choice is extremely limited; language fails to communicate much meaning beyond the simplest terms --help, need, family, all of which contributes to a diminishing purpose for writing. Student demonstrates a little variety of sentence structures and minimal control of grammar, usage, and mechanics. Based on the length and complexity of the response, a few errors in syntax interfere and minimal control in mechanics is noticeable in the response.