

9th Grade Big Question Anchor Paper – Score of 2

Over the course of the year I have discovered from different artifacts that fear really does affect your life by preventing you from doing what you want to do. With my artifacts and other evidence it is very clear that fear can affect your life in many ways. Like said before it can prevent you from doing what you want to do. It can also even prevent you from just living a normal life.

Fear can prevent you from living and one of my artifacts (Source A), proves that. I did this artifact on a picture that said, “Those who fear darkness have no idea what light can do”, this is a great example because it is basically saying that if you live your life being scared and avoiding doing what scares you, you won’t be able to live your life the way you want to and should or be able to experience great things. A fear of dogs is an example of this. If you live your life afraid of dogs, you will never get to realize how great they are.

The song “Fear” by Sia (Source B), talks about many ways fear can affect or even control your life. It talks about how almost everyone has fear in their life and can hold them back. It says that fear “is only holding us back” and if you “look closely amongst all your peers, there is usually one thing that is keeping us off track, it’s fear.” A lot of people worry about what people think about them. It gives an example of this by saying “Mary is afraid of herself, her sentences often out half, she will never give her own opinion, she’s afraid that people might laugh”.

Fear can even affect your education. This is proven in the movie *Forrest Gump* (Source C). Forrest was afraid of even going to school. He was afraid that people wouldn’t like him because he had messed up legs and the other students wouldn’t want to sit with him on the bus.

It is very clear that there are many ways fear can affect your life. It can make you not want to do anything. It can make you not want to be yourself. It can also make you not want to go to school. Fear is very bad and can ruin your life.

Comment [A1]: While the writer does take a clear position on the big question, the opening hook needs to be more engaging and thought-provoking

Comment [A2]: Awkward wording

Comment [A3]: The thesis statement is present but very choppy/repetitive and underdeveloped in its argument

Comment [A4]: The topic sentence is present but vague

Comment [A5]: While the writer does attempt to incorporate evidence from the artifact, the quotation is poorly integrated and the punctuation is incorrect

Comment [A6]: The analysis in this section is generalized and superficial, lacking thoroughness and elaboration

Comment [A7]: This example about dogs feels undeveloped and disconnected from the rest of the paragraph

Comment [A8]: This topic sentence makes a clearer claim, but the writer needs a smoother transition between sections

Comment [A9]: The writer’s repetition of the phrase “talks about” creates wordiness and indicates the her lack of ability to engage with the sources on a deeper, more argumentative level

Comment [A10]: The writer demonstrates some smooth incorporation of evidence

Comment [A11]: This is a place where the writer needs to engage more deeply with the source and analyze more thoroughly

Comment [A12]: This paragraph is very weak and underdeveloped; it is almost entirely summary and uses no evidence from the source

Comment [A13]: The conclusion is simplistic and vague, with repetitive sentence structure and a generalized closing. Overall, this essay makes a clear attempt at the core requirements of the assignment but ultimately scores a 2 because it comes across as underdeveloped and formulaic, lacking meaningful use of evidence and depth of analysis.