

Q1 Research Simulation/Argumentative Essay

Spanish

The United States has been known for centuries as “the melting pot,” that provides new opportunities for all despite social class, race, gender, and ethnicity. As of late, the terminology has been altered, calling the Land of the Free “the salad bowl,” insinuating that while our country may be filled with a variety of cultures, these cultures may not be intertwining. The future, however, holds many mysteries in store for the culture of the United States. Due to the influx of Hispanic immigrants and the benefits that come with being bilingual, the Spanish language may take the United States by storm in the decades to come. As a result, many college professors believe it is imperative for all students to learn Spanish.

Read the following sources carefully. Then write an essay in which you defend or challenge that Spanish should be a graduation requirement for all American high school students. Support your response with textual evidence and inferences drawn from two of the sources.

You will have 60 minutes to develop your essay by providing evidence from two of the texts. Do not merely summarize the sources. Be sure to follow the conventions of standard English.

Diagnostic/Summative/Formative:

Diagnostic scored and entered in PM but not gradebook
Summative scored and entered both PM and gradebook
Scored with *Six Traits* rubric (ideas and organization)

MCCRS Addressed:

W.11-12.1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
L.11-12.1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing.
L.11-12.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Texts:

1. “US Has More Spanish Speakers than Spain”
<http://nypost.com/2015/06/29/us-has-more-spanish-speakers-than-spain/>
2. “Why Bilingual Education Should be Mandatory”
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matthew-lynch-edd/why-bilingual-education-s_b_6168638.html
3. “Why Bilingual Education is Good for Children”
<https://www.thelocal.ch/20110923/1276>
4. Pros and Cons of Bilingual Education
<https://occupytheory.org/list-of-pros-and-cons-of-bilingual-education/>

Critical Expectations for Exemplar:

- Must have textual support from *both* texts
- Organization must support the writer’s task
- Must use conventions of standard English

Instructional Implications:

- Paired text in instruction; text may be print/non-print, multi-media, informational, and/or fiction
- Skillful inclusion of textual support
- Practice of writing on demand of a first draft that meets the conventions of standard English
- Practice of reading complex texts
- Increase classroom use of text-dependent questions