

The Social Impact

Problem/Solution Essay: Sample Student Response

Sample 1

The problem is that in a state of nature everyone has too much freedom to do whatever they want. A state of nature isn't fair for everyone and people feel insecure. The solution to the problem is the social compact. Everyone gives up a little bit of freedom to create a government so they can be protected. If we did not have a government that included a system of laws there would be complete chaos and life would be dangerous. The laws give us security.

3-point Scoring Rubric

3	The response identifies the problem and solution with an accurate and relevant example.
2	The response identifies the problem and solution with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no example.
1	The response identifies problem or solution with an inaccurate, irrelevant, or no example.
0	Inaccurate response

This student clearly stated the problem, "The problem is that in a state of nature everyone has too much freedom to do whatever they want. A state of nature isn't fair for everyone and people feel insecure." The solution was stated as, "The solution to the problem is the social compact. Everyone gives up a little bit of freedom to create a government so they can be protected." Finally, the student's example shows an understanding of a way the social compact creates a more secure society.