

The Social Impact

Problem/Solution Essay: Sample Student Response

Sample 3

The problem: A state of nature is a lawless world that makes a lot of people feel insecure. In this world people could steal and kill freely. Not one person would be protected. The social compact gives us leadership and laws that keep most people from stealing. We need this social compact because it protects you. It may take away some of your freedom but with that freedom you would most likely have a hard life.

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

The student clearly identified the problem with the statements, "A state of nature is a lawless world that makes a lot of people feel insecure. In this world people could steal and kill freely. Not one person would be protected." The solution to the problem was identified with, "The social compact gives us leadership and laws that keep most people from stealing. We need this social compact because it protects you. It may take away some of your freedom but with that freedom you would most likely have a hard life." Although not as clear as some of the other responses, the student provides an example by explaining that in a state of nature people can steal and under a government they are no longer allowed to steal.