Wild Horses | 8th Grade Samples

Sample 1 | *Presents problem that is elaborated using quantitative data and proposes a solution of both having a gather and using fertility control*

To the director of the BLM,

I have a proposal to solve the wild horse and burro problem you are being faced with. As you already know, about 40,600 wild horses and burros roam the lands in 10 western states. The land that they live on can only support at the maximum about 26,000 wild horses and burrows. They have exceeded this limit by 14,600. I have read that you use a technique you call “gathering”, and it seems effective. I know that there are vehicle accidents, personal injuries, and property damage caused by the wild horses. I also know that people have been suggesting using fertility control methods. So why not use both?

Sample 2 | *Let wild horses roam freely and leave them alone because holding them in captivity will kill them faster, we already have too many held captive, and the problems caused by wild horse are small (the third reason is implicit)*

To: The Director of the Bereaue of Land Management

I am an animal lover, but that will not change the facts. Yes, it looks as if the wild horse population is in the way of starvation, but world renowned ecologists say the population of the majestic beast will eventually balance itself out. This being said, I believe we should just let them roam as they please.

Right now, the solution being used is coraling a whole bunch into a small privately owned area. Animal Rights Activists think that just leaving them to fend for themselves is the wrong thing to do, but what we are doing right now is even worse. If you have had any wild animals, such as bugs, you know holding them in captivity is only going to kill them faster. That is currently what we are doing to these horses, is holding a whole bunch of wild horses captive. This makes it way worse then making them fend for themselves. It is basically a humane version of murder. Right now we have way to many held captive by the government already. Thirty-four thousand, to be exact. That’s only a couple of states, believe it or not. There are thirty-seven thousand, half of which are in Nevada, roaming government issued land in ten states. ~~An~~ The only downsides to letting them roam freely are the accidents. In three years there were ninety-three accidents, twenty-five personal injuries were obtained. Another downside is the feeding of the horse by humans. If they are fed anything but the grass it can cause serious stomach disorders or even death.

All in all, I think the wild horse population should just be left alone. If we leave it alone ~~it~~ nature will even it out for us eventually.

Sample 3 | *Presents two solutions to the problem of wild horse overpopulation, supported by reasons – no clear citation of evidence*

The Bureau of Land Management should continue to keep removing horses if the population levels are exceeding the amount of horses a range can sustain. If a range is over populated then food gets scarce and many horse do not get to eat making them suffer. When a range is over populated it upsets the balance of natural resources in the area. The flora and fauna of the area cannot continue to flourish with the upset balance.

The Bureau of Land Management should put up some kind of blockade around the horses herd management areas to keep them out of the residential or urban areas. Just enough to keep the horses out but not enough to stop them frommoving or roaming. Wild horses that have left their herd management areas have been known to cause accidents, injuries and property damage. Horses should stay inside their herd management areas in order to avoid any of those events occurring. Wild horses have also been known to spread disease to domestic horses. Wild horses and domestic horses should be kept separated. Having a blockade would help to not spread diseases from wild horses to domestic horses.

SAMPLE 4 | *Advocates for sterilizing half of the female horse population to reduce population growth; evidence presented is used to demonstrate that cows and overbuilding are the real problems, not horses; the implicit, phantom presence of the current BLM practice of the “roundup”, sometimes makes the argument difficult to follow*

Dear,

Director of the Bureau of Land Management

I am a horse lover, therefore, I do not agree on what is being done. Of all the ideas, the best I think is to make some so they can’t reproduce.

To begin, this is a good idea for many reasons. When horses are separated, it depresses them. I think they should be together so this doesn’t happen. It’s cruel to do this because then they could die. Also, in “Debate Grows Over Roundup of Wild Horses in Nevada” by Randal Archibold, he explains that horses aren’t the real problem. When eating; horse clip off the top of the grass, while cows pull the whole plant out. When horses eat, their body produces nutrition for the grass once out. One of the main problems farmers have is the way cows travel, when they do, the make paths. Horses stay in many places so its less harsh on the environment. So maybe, cows are the real problem.

There are many ways to decrease the numbers over time. This process would be difficult but would pay off eventually. Horses normally produce 1 foal every so often. So my plan is to make half or so female horses so they can’t reproduce. Of all the scientist they have, one could figure out how many would need this. The numbers would stay the same but after a while, they’d slowly decrease. The main problem is space. I think this is a problem because we’re building to much. There has to be some natural land, or else, we won’t survive.

The next thing I want to talk about is how it would help and what they are doing now. The Bureau is not fair. They didn’t even provide evidence for what they’re doing, which is illegal. They stated that you have to show ~~if~~ the damage that they are causing to humans. You’d think they would, but maybe they don’t have anything to show. They say this will solve issues but it will only make them worse. Over time, we will build more, the horse populations will grow along with that, unless we use my plan. It would make everything better.

All in all, I don’t think what we’re doing is right. We’ve become a selfish generation. I say that because I think the only reason we want to change is because the horses don’t “have a case.” If we stick to my plan all of this will end.