

# Scoring Activity

- 1 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
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- 10 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 Your Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Correct Grade \_\_\_\_\_ \*Point Adjustment \_\_\_\_\_ Total Points \_\_\_\_\_

## \*Point Adjustment

Correct Grade (e.g. If the essay's correct grade is a 6, your group assigned it a 6)= -1

One Off (e.g. If the essay's correct grade is a 6, your group assigned it either a 5 or a 7)= +0

Two Off= +1

Three Off= +2

Four Off= +3

# AP English Language and Composition

## 2013 Scoring Guidelines: Synthesis Question

The score should reflect the essay's quality as a whole. Remember that students had only 15 minutes to read the sources and 40 minutes to write; the paper, therefore, is not a finished product and should not be judged by the standards appropriate for an out-of-class assignment. Evaluate the paper as a draft, making certain to reward students for what they do well.

All essays, even those with scores of 8 or 9, may contain occasional lapses in analysis, prose style, or mechanics. Such features should enter into a holistic evaluation of an essay's overall quality. In no case should an essay with many distracting errors in grammar and mechanics score higher than a 2.

- 9** Essays earning a score of 9 meet the criteria for the score of 8 and, in addition, are especially sophisticated in their argument, thorough in their development, or impressive in their control of language.

### 8—Effective

Essays earning a score of 8 **effectively** examine the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They develop their argument by effectively synthesizing\* at least three sources. The evidence and explanations used are appropriate and convincing. The prose demonstrates a consistent ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not necessarily flawless.

- 7** Essays earning a score of 7 meet the criteria for a score of 6 but provide more complete explanation, more thorough development, or a more mature prose style.

### 6—Adequate

Essays earning a score of 6 **adequately** examine the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They develop their analysis by adequately synthesizing at least three of the sources. The evidence and explanation used are appropriate and sufficient. The essay may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.

- 5** Essays earning a score of 5 examine the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They develop their argument by synthesizing at least three sources, but how they use and explain sources is somewhat uneven, inconsistent, or limited. The writer's argument is generally clear, and the sources generally develop the writer's position, but the links between the sources and the argument may be strained. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the student's ideas.

### 4—Inadequate

Essays earning a score of 4 **inadequately** examine the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They develop their argument by synthesizing at least two sources, but the evidence or explanations used may be inappropriate, insufficient, or unconvincing. The sources may dominate the essay's attempts at development, the link between the argument and the sources may be weak, or the student may misunderstand, misrepresent, or oversimplify the sources. The prose generally conveys the student's ideas but may be inconsistent in controlling the elements of effective writing.

- 3** Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for the score of 4 but demonstrate less success examining the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They are less perceptive in their understanding of the sources, or the explanations or examples may be particularly limited or simplistic. The essays may show less maturity in control of writing.

### 2—Little Success

Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate **little success** in examining the factors a group or agency should consider in memorializing an event or person *and* in creating a monument. They may merely allude to knowledge gained from reading the sources rather than cite the sources themselves. These essays may misread the sources, fail to develop a position, or substitute a simpler task by responding to the prompt tangentially with unrelated, inaccurate, or inappropriate explanation. The essays often demonstrate consistent weaknesses in writing, such as grammatical problems, a lack of development or organization, or a lack of control.

- 1** Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for the score of 2 but are underdeveloped, especially simplistic, in their explanation, or weak in their control of language.
- 0** Indicates an off-topic response, one that merely repeats the prompt, an entirely crossed-out response, a drawing, or a response in a language other than English.

\*For the purpose of scoring, synthesis means using sources to develop a position and citing them accurately.

**Read each of the following essays carefully. Then assign a score to the essay based on the AP Language Rubric for this question. All grammatical/syntactical mistakes, misreadings, and misspellings are the fault of the original writer.**

Essay #1

Our need for memorialization ultimately lies in our need and love of connection. Therefore, in creating a monument and in memorializing an event or person, one needs to make that memorial or monument a capsule of that emotion and feeling which best represents the thing being memorialized. It is the experience that makes a memorial meaningful, and so the aesthetic component of the memorial, as well as some indication of its unique import today is necessary to create that warm and satisfactory connection humanity yearns for.

One must become an aesthete when considering the creation of a monument or memorial; the monument's agreement with its location, the location itself, and a simple or grand design is vital to an impactful experience. A monument of Christopher Columbus in PA (Source B) exemplifies a monument whose design and location link together to create a feeling, a connection. Standing tall and heroic, gleaming with the luminescent glow of the grand trees around it, Columbus's memorial speaks for itself. There is no need for an explanation of his feats, or an extensive discourse of reverence, as "the monument manufactures its own aura" (Source A). All that is needed is the humble engraving: "Christopher Columbus." Maya Lin, in her online article "Making the Memorial," wonders at the power of a name: "[it has] the ability [...] to bring back every single memory you have of that person [or event]" (Source G). Lin extols the importance of simplicity in a memorial, for its purpose is not to force an image on someone, but to compel them to create their own. Location is immensely important to a memorial, for it must compliment the purpose and physical aesthetic of the memorial. Source E laments the moving of the Holocaust Museum to the Mall in D.C. One opponent states "Imagine a Holocaust museum in a town whose political sages refused to lift a finger to halt the Holocaust or open our shores to the few survivors." So despite the existence of the memorial, its placement is essential to the respectability and remembrance of the subject matter itself.

This brings up another important factor in memorialization: historical consideration and an explanation of its significance today. In Source D, it is explained that a memorial cemetery is in danger of being destroyed. Bob Brushe, the vice president of the El Monte Cemetary Association explains that its meaning lies in its encapsulation of the moving events and the emotions that come with them that it commemorates. It has no grand design or claim to fame, but it is powerful because it commemorates a beautiful act of benevolence in the face of struggle ("the pioneers of the Santa Fe Trail would bring their dead along with them, preserved somehow, and bury them here.")

Memorialization is important because it connects us with things that we find meaningful. It materializes wonder and admiration, and it is the experience, the aura, the feeling of looking upon this abstraction of our need to admire and respect.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

Essay #2

What makes a memorial so special and why are they made? Hmm? Why do we need them and why are they placed where they are? Memorializing an event or a person is a great way to preserve history because everyone agrees that a massive expensive statue is much more interesting than a boring, dusty, cumbersome textbook. Why not memorialize events or people, well that is what needs to be

discussed and planned because society can't memorialize every event or important person in history there just isn't enough time and space. That is why these three factors, location, effect and reason should be considered by a group or agency before memorializing and creating a monument of an important person or event.

The location of a monument is one of important steps in creating a monument. For example, why would someone build a monument in the middle of the Sahara Desert? If no one is going to see a monument then there is no need to construct one, but it is also important to not build a monument in a heavily populated, dense area because it could cause conflicts. In Source E, Albert Abraham creates a design for the Holocaust Museum on the Mall (The National Mall) in Washington D.C. His plan caused a lot of conflict which led to the denial of his first plan because it was too large. He did not evaluate the location properly because if he did he would of made his plan with a smaller design, which he later does and a smaller Holocaust Museum is built. This is why location should be a factor considered before memorializing an event or person.

The effect of a monument can be positive and negative. The memorial/monument at Mount Rushmore has both positive and negative effects. For example, to build this monument "white men drove the Sioux from hills they still hold sacred" (Source C) which is a negative effect because they have destroyed and stole the Sioux's land. There is a lot of tension and anger that has been created from creating the monument there.

There should be a beneficial reason behind every monument created. For example the Lincoln Memorial (Source A) was created to recognize Lincoln's achievements and the country's achievements with Lincoln being our president. The Lincoln monument is a good reason to have monument created but the monument for Elroy Johnson, "The Maine Lobsterman" (Source F) was not. For example, a monument was planned to be made of him but they cut corners and created a terrible sculpture that rats ated. The sculpture was "vandalized, repaired, and ended up in a warehouse where it was eaten by rats" (Source F). That is why the reason behind the monument should be a factor in considering memorializing an event or person.

There are copious amounts of sculptures, memorials, and monuments in today's society but not all of them were necessary. That is why these three factors, location, effect, and reason should be considered by a group or committee before memorializing an event or person.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

### Essay #3

I believe monuments should be built only if the person, place, or thing is worth remembering. For example, in (photo), Christopher Columbus was remembered for discovering the Americas and, apparently, a field in Pennsylvania. He made a major impact on world history and geography. Agencies or groups should strongly consider major impracts on creating a monument. The Crazy Horse memorial was an unnatural landmark. (Downes). It was created freely with no physical viewing. It portrayed a "proud man who was never captured in a photograph or drawn from life." There is no significance of this man in history in which I believe this landmark is not worth being remembered. Memorials should only be built on extreme history. They require a plethora of time and money. If a monument is being created it should have 75% significance to the human race. I believe that it most people don't know who or what it is, it should not be created. Mount Rushmore depicts our presidents. In my opinion I believe each president carved on to that stone did something remarkable for our nation and they deserve to be recognized in our landmarks. In Source C, I disagree with the author about Mount Rushmore about it being a "bother." In Source D, I believe the cemetery should be converted into historical landmark status. Each person that is

buried there died and is remembered by their family. All or those or at least most of those people have families and equally that is a memorial site. I believe it's disrespectful to transport the graves.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #4

Creating memorials and monuments is a large job and incredibly complicated. Agencies who create them have a large responsibility on their shoulders. Monuments and memorials are expected to last forever—and so should their sites. When constructing memorials and monuments the biggest and most important concerns should be time, size, and location.

When designing a monument, an important aspect is size. People can assume that the larger the monument, the more importance it has. Source B includes a photo of a large statue of Christopher Columbus. The Statue stands tall and proud. People who see Christopher Columbus monument will be able to infer the importance of his life by the size and expensive materials used to construct that statue. Source F shares the story of H. Elroy Johnson, a man who made his living by trapping lobsters. The man posed for a sculpture and after 50 years, it was turned into a monument because of its story and its purpose was to attract tourists. The materials used to sculpte this monument—and the fact that it was coated in bronze—inflated the cost and attraction to this monument. Without its bronze and estimated cost of \$30,000, it wouldn't be an attraction to the tourists of Maine. Another important component of monuments is time and patience. Lots of it is needed to complete monuments. In Source F, it took 40 years to make the simple statue a monument. In Source C, after 60 years of constructing the monument Crazy Horse, it is still not completed. Mount Rushmore (Source C) took more than 30 years to complete. Successful monuments require a vast amount of time, money, and materials. Tourists are attracted to the monument with the most interesting story.

Location is a large concern when constructing monuments. There is no perfect place for one. A location could seem ideal one day, then years later strike up a controversy. In Source D, the Savannah Memorial Park is at risk of losing its land. The cemetery site does not bring in profit and residents who live near by want to get rid of it. The memorial park is largely staying open, the people in that area have no interest for it. Money is a large part of running a memorial site and without it, its impossible. In Source E, there is a controversy whether or not The Mall in Washington D.C. is the proper place for a Holocaust Memorial Museum. Protestors say that America isn't the place for the museum because during the Holocaust America refused to "lift a finger." When building a memorial, location is important to consider because if the builders want it to be supported by the people, they have to build it where it's wanted. If a memorial ends up on in a place where people won't want it, it will lose funds.

Memorials and monuments are difficult things to build. Time, money, materials, and location are some of the most important factors. Memorials and monuments are important parts of American culture.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #5

One of the best days of my life was spent on a beach in North Carolina when I was seven years old. The weather was pristine; the water cool and refreshing; the sand firm yet malleable. As the climax of the day, my brother and I built the biggest sand castle we had ever seen. It was taller than me and wider than our minivan; it had two moats and even a clamshell drawbridge. We had never been so proud. Yet two

days later when we returned to the beach, the sandcastle was gone. Our little monument of a perfect day had been erased.

I've learned more about permanent memorials since those days. Indeed, in the process of designing and building a monument, the actual image of the monument itself is the least important item on the list. A design team, group, or agency must ponder its mental effect to those who visit and those that the monument will eventually represent. Though there are multiple ways to approach this, three aspects rise above the rest. A monument or historical site must have a sense of preservation, a powerful and lasting effect on those who view it, and finally an inherent respect towards those who it represents.

Preservation is extremely crucial in this process because a monument will last for the rest of time if executed properly. In Source C, Lawrence Douhes believes "the day may sooner come when most human works have worn away... what remains may be two enormous granite oddities in the Great Plains..." (Source C). Douhes effectively urges that these two monuments, Mt. Rushmore and the still-in-construction Crazy Horse, will long outlive the humans who contributed to these great works, leaving a certain representation for years to come. A team must ensure their planned monument will be protected and preserved, much unlike the "San Gabriel Valley pioneers [that are] buried at Savannah Memorial Park" (Source D), who are in danger of relocation due to a perspective housing/economic development. This cemetery represents much more than some buried people; it sheds light on the history of the Santa Fe Trail pioneers and allows the present to understand the roots of a nation and their ancestors. Another example of a lack of preservation is the Lobsterman Monument, cited in Source F. This statue, proposed in honor of the fisherman H. Elroy Johnson, was intended to represent and reflect gratitude towards the economy that brought wealth to Maine fishermen. The statue had big plans, including a bronze cast and an exhibit at the 1939 World Fair. However, the money ran out and so did support. This statue, intended to represent the hard and dangerous work of Maine fishermen, was instead "vandalized, repaired, and ended up in a warehouse where it was eaten by rats" (Source F). These two examples of neglect and poor planning provide a guide of what not to do when building a work that will be important to many people in the present day and for years to come. If a group cannot effectively design and have plans to protect a monument, it would be much more respectful for its building to be postponed or even cancelled.

After its preservation is accounted for, a monument must inspire a certain effect upon one's arrival to it. In Source A, Kirk Savage argues the Lincoln Memorial "contains no actual relic of Lincoln. It is pure representation—a colossal marble statue" (Source A) that intends to mean much more than a tribute to the 16<sup>th</sup> president. A visit to the memorial is the only true way to experience the true power of the experience, because it unites everyone there into a community, as argued by Savage. The Lincoln Memorial is an example of the success in creating the necessary effect, as Savage again writes that "the monument manufactures its own aura" (Source A) that essentially needs no further explanation. The photograph by Jim Deeger in Source B creates a similar effect. In the otherwise bleak and dreary looking picture, Christopher Columbus stands there, powerful and solemn. Mentioned in the previous body paragraph, Mt. Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Monuments hold an awesome effect that will remain long after humanity and "the nearby South Dakota badlands" (Source C) erode away, leaving only the representation and history these two granite structures bring, without reading a single word. Maya Lin, the designer of the Vietnam Memorial, aimed to establish a "mirrored effect [that would] double the size of the park, creating two worlds, one we are a part of and one we cannot enter" (Source G). Her goal from the very start was to form a sense of awe for those who see the memorial. She wrote in "Making the Memorial" that "by linking these two strong symbols for the country, I wanted to create a unity between the nation's past and present" (Source G) that allows future students and curious persons to learn about both the U.S. and the world's past. Ranging from designed memorials like the Vietnam Memorial, the Columbus Statue, and the Lincoln Memorial, on to the natural depictions of the past, seen from Mt. Rushmore and the Crazy Horse Statue, each of these sites provide a specific insight and sense of awe to

those who see them. This effect is what makes a memorial a memorial, and without it, these sites contain no historical value.

Our little sandcastle is gone, but we are in good company. No less than the great Ozymandias is now no more than a broken visage and a pair of crumbling legs. But the effort to memorialize our history is worthwhile and should continue through an awareness of preservation and effect, even if the sands and the tides have the final say.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #6

To have a memorial made in honor of someone is an achievement that many are worthy of, but some people don't. To memorialize an event or a person takes time and it takes money. For example, the Abraham Lincoln Memorial was not even made in his lifetime (Source A). What needs to be discussed when building a memorial is whether or not it is worth the time and money, and the location.

According to Source D, the thousands of San Gabriel Valley pioneers buried at Savannah Memorial Park could be moved for the future development. The issue with this is that while nearby residents would like a cemetery to be moved; Savannah's history is very strong and should not be tampered with.

Another issue regarding memorial location is evident in Source E. Much controversy has come about regarding the location of the Holocaust Museum. Many Jewish communities, and even some non-Jewish communities disagree with the museum being built in the United States. While the Holocaust was happening, the United States did very little to stop it. However, counter arguments say that the Holocaust Museum brings diversity to The Mall.

Other problems when making memorials regard money. According to Source F, H. Elroy Johnson, who made money trapping lobsters, was supposed to have a sculpture of him posing with a lobster in the 1939 New York World's Fair. However, Maine ran out of money to finance the building of the sculpture. Instead of a sculpture, the plaster model, coated in bronze paint was sent to the fair. The idea of the statue was clear, but it just couldn't be funded.

Not only does it take time to choose a person worthy of a memorial, but it also takes time to build. According to Source C, the carving of Crazy Horse, the great Sioux leader, has been going on since 1948. It is a lengthy task to make a memorial. There are many things to think of when building a memorial: location, cost, time, and effort being put into it and popularity. The ending product will be an historical landmark if all the variables are accounted for.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #7

Those who forget history are doomed to repeat it; I had never truly understood these words until I stood face to face with President Lincoln himself, or rather his monument. Until that moment I had only ever read about Lincoln in books and only saw his face in two-dimensional, lifeless paintings. It was surreal to stand before the man that revolutionized America, by uniting; although the statue towered above me, I could feel his unshakeable presence. History had come alive that day. When memorializing a person or event, it is vital to assess their impact on their nation above all else. A monument symbolizes the nation's dedication to honoring an individual, while preserving their ideals. It becomes a "strong

[symbol] for the country” (Source G). Instantly the figure becomes a role model, for how the nation should never be made again.

In our modern society we are easily distracted by video games Facebook to realize the importance of our history. Sometimes we forget the sacrifices and adversity other experienced that have shaped our life today, and in those moments is when we need to look around us for a reminder from the past.

In an ideal world we would have a monument for everyone who has ever beneficially influenced the world, but realistically that is impossible. Money rules the world and not everyone is willing to spend their tax dollars to erect a monument for someone who died long before they were born. When considering finances, the size of the monument must be assessed. For example, it requires a great deal of funding to create “Mount Rushmore’s strange grandeur” (Source C); and even more to keep it and maintain it considering despite what we do to preserve it, it “will be gone in a geological instant” (Source C). That being said, one cannot overlook the importance of size and cost of a monument.

Monuments hold significant meaning to each person who sees them, whether it be admiration or remorse. As a result, an important question is raised: who gets to claim it? This controversial issue is often the deciding factor when deciding to build a monument. Although the effects of the Holocaust were felt all over the world, none was greater than its impact on Europe. As a result, debate has ensued over the rightful location of such an iconic museum. As each person or group stakes its claim on the testament, it becomes increasingly difficult to not offend a particular group. The opponents of the Holocaust Museum angrily refuted its presence in the U.S., a nation which “refused to lift a finger to halt the Holocaust” (Source E). Soon the beauty of creating a monument is overshadowed by controversy from each side.

Monuments are meant to stand the test of time, to help people reflect about their history. But before this can happen we must first consider the importance of the event/person, and whether or not we are willing to immortalize them.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #8

There are many ways to memorialize a person or event. One can write a song, piece together a scrapbook, or design a monument to commemorate a special person or an important event. A monument, through careful consideration of its location, size, material, and purpose, can effectively pay homage to deep sacrifice or honor moments of great achievement.

When a group or agency first contemplates memorializing an event or person through a monument, they should consider location. A beautiful park or a place where the person held close to their heart can elevate the meaning of the monument. A monument of Christopher Columbus stands tall in Riverside Park in Easton, Pennsylvania (Source B). Seeing his monument while strolling under the trees on a sunny day in Riverside Park makes one remember the important role Christopher Columbus had in American history. If his monument were located behind an abandoned building or amongst a cluster of billboards and other signs, the people would not consider his importance as beautiful and inspiring. When contemplating where to build a museum to commemorate the Holocaust, many individuals were furious with the plans of a Holocaust museum being built onto The Mall in Washington, D.C. (Source E). Protestors questioned why a “museum dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust would be built in the United States, who did little to stop the Holocaust from occurring” (Source E). A group or agency must consider that The Mall in Washington, D.C. has no significant importance to anyone affected by the Holocaust. When considering building a monument it is important to consider the location in order to properly memorialize an event or a person.

Once a location has been determined, the size and material for the monument must be planned. The size of the monument or museum is important to ensure that the person or event being commemorated gets the proper amount of remembrance. After the decision to build a Holocaust Museum in The Mall in Washington, D.C. was made, protestors began suggesting that the design plan was too large (Source E). The purpose of the museum was to remember the Holocaust, not to “overpower The Mall or its visitors” (Source E). By downsizing the museum, they were able to create a place of remembrance without overpowering other monuments and memorials in The Mall. The material of a monument can also help provide the right sense of remembrance. When designing the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial in Washington, D.C., Maya Lin put much thought into the material of the monument. She chose “black granite in order to make the surface reflective and peaceful” (Source G). The mirroring effect of the granite helped to create a world of reality and a world of remembrance. Her choice of material helps to complete the feeling of sorrow while remembering the bravery of those who served in Vietnam. The material and size of a memorial can greatly change the feeling of remembrance and its effect on those paying homage to an event or person.

Additionally, when considering memorializing an event or person in creating a monument, the message a group or agency is trying to portray through the monument should be considered. When designing the Vietnam Veteran’s Memorial, Maya Lin decided to create a wall of names cut into the ground. It was important to commemorate those who lost their lives in Vietnam and she felt that the best way to remember everything about each individual person was engraving their name into a wall. This allows people to remember everything about the person rather than just one instance, as a picture does (Source G). When constructing the monument for Crazy Horse, the sculptors decided to have him “pointing out over his beloved black hills” (Source C). This commemorates the great accomplishments Crazy Horse had in the Black Hills while commemorating his love for them (Source C). The message a monument displays is very important in the remembrance of that person or event.

When designing a monument to commemorate a person or significant event, the location, size, material, and purpose of the monument should be considered.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #9

Throughout history monuments were designed to remember someone or an event that is important or significant, but is it appropriate to create such a reminder? Monuments may be brilliant and extraordinary, but at what price? They cost millions of dollars, cause controversial arguments and potentially destroy a naturally beautiful site. Artists cut into the earth and build a reminder of some things people just want to forget.

“White men drove the Sioux from hills they still hold sacred; did they have to carve their faces all over them, too?” (Source C) Mount Rushmore contains presidents’ faces that influenced the United States’ history. But the fact that they pushed a native population out of their home and then have the nerve to imprint faces of men who did it? Not appropriate. The Sioux people are upset and hurt by the “unnatural landmark.” Now that there is a Crazy Horse Memorial, does that make it okay, even? No. This would be wrong because the native tribe respected land and the aura it had. Downes is “bothered” by the way people adore the monument and forget that there is not a nice story behind it. Thus, a monument can create anger or other negative emotions because of the area that they are put.

Monuments are financially expensive and sometimes it costs too much to even finish. The Savannah Memorial Park has several thousands of graves and the problem with the lack of funds make the process practically impossible. “That task could cost millions of dollars.” The monuments created do not only have to be designed but kept up and added to. The problem is that once you have a monument then

how can you move it or pay for it? The memorial park is huge, 4 acres, and once they started it, the money quickly disappeared. "Lack of resources" and uncertainty causes problems. Thus, memorials once created are often unable to be continued.

Lastly, similar to the way Mr. Downes felt towards the Crazy Horse Memorial, the Jewish people felt towards the Holocaust Museum. "How offensive to any informed informal?" Protestor to the museum felt that the monument was contradicting the U.S. involvement. The U.S. did not stop nor did it help welcome survivors. Monuments are controversial for specifically that reason what did we do to try to prevent it? The Vietnam Memorial, the Korean Memorial, both of these were avoidable. They were wars that killed people and we honor those who died. The people didn't have to die. Thus, monuments are controversial.

Overall, people are often offended by buildings, monuments, and memorials set up to "honor" those who have fallen. Plaques about fallen police officer or fire fighter are two-sided cause that person could've been a bad husband or wife but good at his/her job. The costs are extremely high to alter, maintain, or take down monuments. Monuments are not as necessary as maybe a picture or the thought of that person or people. To change the environment by a little or a lot still affects people's views and cultural ideas. The authors of these documents understand that tolls a memorial has on its surroundings. An example of another controversial memorial is the 9/11 Memorial. It was a tragic event and certain people choose to honor their lost loved ones more privately. Overall, the monuments design, place, and cost could almost outweigh the advantages of creating one.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

#### Essay #10

Memorials serve as physical manifestations of achievement, sacrifice, and glory. These memorials serve as celebrations and reminders of great accomplishment and success. While memorials often serve as sources of hope and strength, many factors should be considered prior to the commitment to the large responsibility of constructing a powerful message in the physical manifestation of a monument. Before devoting themselves to their task, agency workers should consider the location, symbolism, and cost of the monuments.

In any sort of construction, location is incalculably crucial. In real estate, the cost of a house can rise up to one million dollars based solely on its proximity to the largest attraction; ranging from a large city to a beautiful beach. The infamous "Mall" in Washington, D.C. is the ultimate center of civil religion. This is manifested in the plethora of monuments attributed to prominent political figures and centers of government. Kirk Savage asserts that, "In this way the monumental core in Washington functions somewhat like a pilgrimage site" (Source A). Thus, monuments that are strategically erected in or around The Mall will inevitably be easily accessible to the incalculable amounts of tourists that "pilgrimage" to our nation's capital annually. Any monument erected in this area will have a greater chance for economic gain and increased tourism due to the other attractions in the area. It is far more probable that a tourist will travel to a site with several attractions than an inconvenient site with only one. The access to the various monuments at The Mall acts as an example of why the rhetoric of civil religion "does seem to ring true" (Source A).

In a similar way, the location of a monument can also serve as a negative factor in situations where the construction's monuments can damage the environment. Lawrence Downes comments that "it's easy to feel the affection for Mount Rushmore's strange grandeur, but only if you forget how it got there" (Source C). Downes acknowledges that the construction of monuments in inconvenient locations can seem as something "close to graffiti" (Source C).

In contrast, the physical symbolism of the monument always serves as a reminder of what the event or people stand for. The Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. serves as a reminder of solidarity in a time of chaos. The Martin Luther King Memorial acts as a reminder of the Civil Rights Movement. In considering constructing a monument, groups should also consider the implications of the cause or event of which that monument will represent. Monuments should serve as reminders of greatness, achievement, and equality. It would be completely illogical to build a monument or memorial in respect to Adolf Hitler because of all the connotations that are associated with his name. The mentioning of Hitler is commonly accompanied with remarks about murder, oppression, and hatred. The Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. proves that monuments of horribly tragic events can serve as beacons of hope for the future. Christine Musser questions if the museum symbolizes oppression or would “cause further anti-Semitism” (Source F). On the contrary, the museum acts as a reminder of atrocities and serves as a symbol of solidarity for the future. Thus, the symbol of the event or person being memorialized should also be questioned prior to construction.

The cost of the project is also an important issue in the construction of monuments. Monuments serve as beacons of hope and strength. A half-completed monument will not serve as either of those things because of its incompleteness. The unfinished work implies a lack of devotion to the cause for which this monument represents. The sculpture of “the Maine Lobsterman’s” vandalism and consumption by rats implies a lack of pride in the cause to preserve the identity and symbol of the lobsterman (Source F). Because not a single donor would support the reparation and conservation of the sculpture, it lost its importance and influence. Therefore, before the start of a monument project, the funds should be secured to preserve the message and power of the memorial.

Thus, location, the symbolism and associations with the event, and the price to fund the representation of the memorial should be strongly considered before memorializing an event or person.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

### Essay #11

I am a senior; my thoughts right now are on my legacy as a high school student. What shall I leave behind? How can I properly sum up my time in these halls? My desire is to create some sort of monument to capture what this school has meant to me and what I have meant to this school. This, of course, raises an important question: what should I consider in designing my own memorial?

Memorials and monuments play a huge emotional and cultural role in society, and as they are so significant, certain precautions must be taken in constructing them. An unwanted monument or a monument that does not meet the set standard would be rejected by society. Monuments must be properly funded and must not be overly controversial in order to justify their construction. Many are well-maintained, and serve as a connection between people and historical events, while others only anger the population, and others are still not properly funded or maintained and end up disgracing what they were meant to pay homage to.

When properly constructed, monuments can serve as a beautiful connection between events of the past, and people of the present. The sensation felt is “not exactly in the realm of imagination or reason, but grounded in the felt connection of individual to collective body” (Source A). Admiring a monument makes one feel a part of something bigger than themselves, which is why historical monuments such as the Lincoln Memorial are so popular and others, such as the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial, draw an emotional response for their preservation of the lives lost at war. “[The veterans’] names would allow everyone to respond and remember,” observes Maya Lin, architect of the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial (Source G). Such emotional tributes, as well as historical monuments prove the

efficacy of remembering through structure, but in constructing them we must be certain not to disrespect others who could be made to feel uncomfortable with certain monuments.

A key distinction between a beloved monument and a repulsive eyesore is the topic it remembers, and how the people feel about it. Certain subjects do not fit to be memorialized in certain places and would cause an uproar if constructed. The idea of building a Holocaust Museum in the United States, for instance, was repugnant to some people because they could not fathom building “a Holocaust museum in the town whose political sages refused to lift a finger to halt the Holocaust” (Source E). If a monument only angers those whom it was meant to support, it should not be constructed. Others have also felt disenfranchised by unnecessary monuments. In the case of the Native American Sioux tribe, “it was bad enough that white men drove the Sioux from hills they still hold sacred; but did they have to carve their faces all over them, too?” (Source C). While Mount Rushmore is admired by many, it is harmful to others, and such factors need to be considered in constructing a monument.

Another factor that must be taken into account is funding. If a monument cannot be maintained then it will only deteriorate, and serve to do little more than disrespect the image it was meant to remember. Such was the case for the sculpture of “the Maine Lobsterman,” which, after being inadequately funded, was “vandalized, repaired, and ended up in a warehouse where it was eaten by rats” (Source F). If a monument is going to serve no more to society than rat food, don’t bother building it because it only harms the image of that which is supposed to be remembered. Such was also the case in the Savannah Grave Site Memorial Park, which lost funding to the degree that there is now a very real possibility that graves will be exhumed and relocated to make room for commercial developments (Source D). Acquiring proper funding for these memorials is imperative so as to not tarnish the legacies of those they serve to remember.

Monuments play a crucial role in society, and when properly executed can connect the community as a whole. It is simply important to assess factors such as funding and public opinion or controversy before construction, in order to make sure monuments are still viewed in such a positive light. As for my own legacy, it occurs to me that the gum I just stuck under my desk is the perfect way to memorialize my time here. I don’t deserve anything expensive or prominently displayed, but it somehow feels right that my monument also be a quiet act of rebellion. For four years, I have been a stubborn stain on an otherwise pristine institution, colorful yet unsightly, and ultimately very difficult to remove.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay #12

I’ll be honest. I cannot think of anything more boring than a stupid statue of Christopher Columbus. What am I supposed to do with that? A ten-foot tall granite white dude staring at an elm tree. BTW, pretty sure Columbus did not discover Pennsylvania, sooooooooooooo..... good job, Source B.

I mean, I’m just being honest here. Statues are boring. Monuments are boring. I am not surprised that rats ate the statue of the Maine Lobsterman. I am only surprised they did not die of boredom beforehand (Source F). If there were 27 hours in a day, I would read all 83,694,128,605 names on the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial. I really would. But, you know, there’s only 24 (Source G). And I already know not to go to war with Vietnam—I saw *Saving Private Ryan*—so the educational value of that thing is pretty much nil.

Do you know what is interesting? YouTube. Man, I could watch YouTube all day. All kinds of stuff—band videos, *Harry Potter* fan compilations, hilarious Autotune mixes of the president’s latest speech—I’ll watch any of it. And you know what? So do, like, a million billion people. Ask anyone—would you rather visit the Savannah Memorial Cemetery or watch a video of a cat hilariously running away from

a vacuum cleaner? Yeah, that's what I thought. (Source D). No wonder those dead people can't pay their bills.

But I will take selfies of myself at monuments. That actually is pretty interesting to all my followers on Twitter and friends on Snapchat. My class took a field trip to Washington, D.C. and I posted a ton of pictures of myself at the Lincoln Memorial on Instagram. I got about 50 "likes," no big whoop, but that's certainly the most interested in the Lincoln Memorial anyone has ever been, especially after I add this Snapchat filter that gives Lincoln different facial hair. #Justbeinghonest. So Savage, Kirk was totally right when he said "[T]he public monument speaks to a deep need for attachment that can be met only in a real place, where the imagined community actually materializes and the existence of the nation is confirmed in a simple but powerful way." Except he thought he was talking about The Mall in Washington, D.C., but actually "the real place" is Facebook and actually the "imagined community" is my friends and followers. The site doesn't manufacture its own aura. I do, on Facebook. LOL. JK, nobody goes on Facebook anymore. (Source A)

So. In conclusion. Social media is the new monument and the only thing agencies need to consider is how to get me there so I can take pictures of myself and then Tweet about my visit so that other people will go there and take pictures of themselves and then dead guys like Crazy Horse will live forever on my Timeline (Source C). Except not the Holocaust Museum. Super depressing. Can you imagine working in the gift shop there? Lol.

Student Score: \_\_\_\_\_

Actual Score \_\_\_\_\_