

**Did Lee Harvey Oswald Kill JFK?**

**Introduction:**

More than 50 years after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, Americans still dispute whether Lee Harvey Oswald was part of the crime. The challenge is for you to investigate evidence related to the event to determine Oswald’s involvement in the killing of JFK.

**Task:**

You will assume the role of an American citizen who is responding to a CNN online opinion poll about Kennedy’s assassination. First, you will vote for one of three options regarding Oswald’s involvement in the crime. They are:

* Lee Harvey Oswald is the lone gunman and solely responsible for killing JFK.
* Lee Harvey Oswald is part of a conspiracy. He worked with another individual(s) to kill JFK.
* Lee Harvey Oswald is a patsy and has absolutely nothing to do with the killing of JFK.

Next, you will write an argumentative paragraph that explains your vote.

**Criteria for Success:** In order to successfully complete this assignment your argumentative paragraph must:

* Describe important people and events related to the Kennedy assassination.
* Assert a claim and support it with evidence and reasoning.

**Rubric**

**SOCIAL STUDIES CONTENT (Individuals, Groups, and Events That Shaped History)**

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| **Rubric Score** | **Characteristics of Student Work** |
| *Advanced*  4 | *In addition to a proficient performance, student may:*   * Analyze the role of particular leverage actions, cause/effect relationships, and patterns of behavior in order to develop and support the claim presented in the argumentative paragraph. |
| *Proficient*  3 | *In addition to a basic performance:*   * Discusses the role of Lee Harvey Oswald and his actions in establishing his involvement in the assassination. |
| *Basic*  2 | * Identifies people and events relevant to the issue of JFK’s assassination. |

**LITERACY SKILLS (Text Types and Purposes – Argumentation)**

**DEEP LEARNING PROFICIENCIES (Reasoning)**

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| **Rubric Score** | **Characteristics of Student Work: Introduction/Conclusion** | **Characteristics of Student Work:**  **Organization** | **Characteristics of Student Work:**  **Development** |
| *Advanced*  4 | *In addition to a proficient performance, student may:*   * Develop a topic sentence that has a unique or complex assertion. * Provide a concluding statement that compels the reader to take action and/or presents a strong and satisfying sense of resolution. | *In addition to a proficient performance, student may:*   * Purposeful sequencing to maximize effectiveness of argument. * Transitions guide the reader. | *In addition to a proficient performance*, *student may:*   * Analyze complex or contradictory evidence. * Explain the relationships between supporting examples and details so the reader completely understands the perspectives being presented. |
| *Proficient*  3 | *In addition to a basic performance:*   * Provides a clear and specific topic sentence that justifies your claim. * Provides a concluding statement that provides a sense of resolution. | *In addition to a basic performance:*   * Organizes ideas clearly. * Uses transitions to signal new ideas. | * Supports claim with accurate data and evidence from credible sources. * Contextualizes the evidence and describes how it supports the claim. |
| *Basic*  2 | * Provides an introduction that includes a claim about the situation in North Korea. * Provides a conclusion that establishes a sense of closure. | * Divides the paper into different sections, each focused on a single idea. | * Provides evidence that is relevant to the claim. |

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| *Basic* 2 | * Provides a topic sentence that is relevant to the prompt. * Provides a concluding statement that is relevant to the prompt. | * Contains a beginning, middle and end. | * Provides evidence that is relevant to the topic sentence. |

**CNN Online Poll: Did Lee Harvey Oswald Kill JFK?**

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| **Check one (x)** | **Options** |
|  | Lee Harvey Oswald is the lone gunman and solely responsible for killing JFK |
|  | Lee Harvey Oswald is part of a conspiracy. He worked with another individual(s) to kill JFK |
|  | Lee Harvey Oswald is a patsy and has absolutely nothing to do with the killing of JFK |

**Write paragraph here that justifies your vote**

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