

The Iceberg Illusion

Success is an iceberg

SUCCESS!

WHAT PEOPLE SEE

Persistence



Failure



Sacrifice



Disappointment



WHAT PEOPLE DON'T SEE

Dedication



Hard work



Discipline



Practice Journal – Sample Response

IB Learner Profile Attribute chosen for discussion → Thinker

Clear topic sentence!

Being a thinker will help me be successful. If I think through what I want to say or do, it can give me more of an opportunity to do well in school. Thinking about my choices, and making good ones, will also help me be successful. On the other hand, sometimes you can overthink things.

Details to support how it'll help me be successful!

Details explaining the obstacles I could face!

This may cause you to panic or waste time. Also, there may be times when you feel like you can't answer or think yourself out of a question. These obstacles can make it hard to be successful in school, but if you take a second, and think about your goals, you'll realize that you can do it! Being a thinker can occasionally have some obstacles, but it definitely has great benefits!

Wrapping up my discussion with a sentence or two that states what the reader should learn from my paragraph!

Some notes about this response:

- **Total number of sentences: 8** (*that's the minimum for a well-developed paragraph!*)
- **It has a clear topic sentence that states the focus!** (*Being a thinker will help me be successful.*)
- **It provides details for each question and stays focused on the task** (*being a thinker*)
- **It has a closing sentence... it doesn't just end on a random detail!**
- **While this response uses personal pronouns (I, me, my, we, etc.), most responses WILL NOT! Try not to use personal pronouns in your writing!**

KEEP THIS SAMPLE JOURNAL IN YOUR WRITING FOLDER TO USE AS A GUIDE WHILE WRITING YOUR OTHER JOURNALS THIS YEAR! 😊

Practice Journal Review – Let's reflect!

Does the journal response:

...contain a TOPIC SENTENCE that communicates the FOCUS of the paragraph?

- Yes if so, what's the focus? _____
- No

...discuss ways in which the chosen quality will help him/her be successful in school?

- Yes underline the discussion in the response in _____
- No (pick color)

On a scale of **1** (brief) to **5** (very detailed), how "well-developed" is the discussion?

1 2 3 4 5 Explain: _____

... provide examples of obstacles that may hinder success?

- Yes underline the discussion in the response in _____
- No (pick color)

On a scale of **1** (brief) to **5** (very detailed), how "well-developed" is the discussion?

1 2 3 4 5 Explain: _____

On a scale of **1** (confusing & choppy) to **5** (clear & fluid – uses great transitions between ideas), how well does the paragraph flow?

1 2 3 4 5 Explain: _____
