These materials are for training purposes and are intended for use only at an AP Summer Institute. The materials are in draft form and have not been copyedited.
The passage below is from *Last Child in the Woods* (2008) by Richard Louv. Read the passage carefully. Then, in a well-developed essay, analyze the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. Support your analysis with specific references to the text.

Researchers at the State University of New York at Buffalo are experimenting with a genetic technology through which they can choose the colors that appear on butterfly wings. The announcement of this in 2002 led writer Matt Richtel to conjure a brave new advertising medium: “There are countless possibilities for moving ads out of the virtual world and into the real one. Sponsorship-wise, it’s time for nature to carry its weight.” Advertisers already stamp their messages into the wet sands of public beaches. Cash-strapped municipalities hope corporations agree to affix their company logo on parks in exchange for dollars to keep the public spaces maintained. “The sheer popularity” of simulating nature or using nature as ad space “demands that we acknowledge, even respect, their cultural importance,” suggests Richtel. Culturally important, yes. But the logical extension of synthetic nature is the irrelevance of “true” nature—the certainty that it’s not even worth looking at.

True, our experience of natural landscape “often occurs within an automobile looking out,” as Elaine Brooks said. But now even that visual connection is optional. A friend of mine was shopping for a new luxury car to celebrate her half-century of survival in the material world. She settled on a Mercedes SUV, with a Global Positioning System: just tap in your destination and the vehicle not only provides a map on the dashboard screen, but talks you there. But she knew where to draw the line. “The salesman’s jaw dropped when I said I didn’t want a backseat television monitor for my daughter,” she told me. “He almost refused to let me leave the dealership until he could understand why.” Rear-seat and in-dash “multimedia entertainment products,” as they are called, are quickly becoming the hottest add-on since rearview mirror fuzzy dice. The target market: parents who will pay a premium for a little backseat peace.

Sales are brisk; the prices are falling. Some systems include wireless, infrared-connected headsets. The children can watch *Sesame Street* or play *Grand Theft Auto* on their PlayStation without bothering the driver.

Why do so many Americans say they want their children to watch less TV, yet continue to expand the opportunities for them to watch it? More important, why do so many people no longer consider the physical world worth watching? The highway’s edges may not be postcard perfect. But for a century, children’s early understanding of how cities and nature fit together was gained from the backseat: the empty farmhouse at the edge of the subdivision; the variety of architecture, here and there; the woods and fields and water beyond the seamy edges—all that was and is still available to the eye. This was the landscape that we watched as children. It was our drive-by movie.

Perhaps we’ll someday tell our grandchildren stories about our version of the nineteenth-century Conestoga wagon. “You did what?” they’ll ask.

“Yes,” we’ll say, “it’s true. We actually looked out the car window.” In our useful boredom, we used our fingers to draw pictures on fogged glass as we watched telephone poles tick by. We saw birds on the wires and combines in the fields. We were fascinated with roadkill, and we counted cows and horses and coyotes and shaving-cream signs. We stared with a kind of reverence at the horizon, as thunderheads and dancing rain moved with us. We held our little plastic cars against the glass and pretended that they, too, were racing toward some unknown destination. We considered the past and dreamed of the future, and watched it all go by in the blink of an eye.
2013 AP® Reading Training Material Cover Sheet
Scoring Guidelines

AP Subject: English Language and Composition
Question #: 2
Exam Form Code: 4JBP
Version: 1.0

Form Type (Check One)

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Sample student responses for the above undisclosed exams are confidential. Readers trained to score these exams must not remove these samples from the Reading room.

In September, the official published student samples for the above disclosed exams will be posted on AP Central® at apcentral.collegeboard.org. Readers trained to score the US Main exam free-response questions may take the student samples on which they were trained from the Reading.
Question 2

General Directions: This scoring guide will be useful for most of the essays you read. If it seems inappropriate for a specific paper, ask your Table Leader for assistance. Always show your Table Leader books that seem to have no response or that contain responses that seem unrelated to the question. Do not assign a score of 0 or — without this consultation.

Your score should reflect your judgment of the paper's quality as a whole. Remember that students had only 40 minutes to read and write; the paper, therefore, is not a finished product and should not be judged by 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 scored 8 or 9, may contain occasional lapses in analysis, prose style, or mechanics. Such features should enter into your holistic evaluation of a paper's overall quality. In no case should you score a paper with many distracting errors in grammar and mechanics 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 analyze the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and convincing, referring to the passage explicitly or implicitly. 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 the 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 analyze the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and sufficient, referring to the passage explicitly or implicitly. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.

5 Essays earning a score of 5 analyze the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. The evidence or explanations used may be uneven, inconsistent, or limited. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the writer's ideas.

4 Inadequate
Essays earning a score of 4 inadequately analyze the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. These essays may misunderstand the passage, misrepresent the strategies Louv uses or may analyze these strategies insufficiently. The evidence or explanations used may be inappropriate, insufficient, or unconvincing. The prose generally conveys the writer'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 in analyzing the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. They are less perceptive in their understanding of the passage or Louv's strategies, 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 analyzing the rhetorical strategies Louv uses to develop his argument about the separation between people and nature. These essays may misunderstand the prompt, misread the passage, fail to analyze the strategies Louv uses, or substitute a simpler task by responding to the prompt tangentially with unrelated, inaccurate, or inappropriate explanation. The prose often demonstrates 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 undeveloped, 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.

— Indicates an entirely blank response.

* For the purposes of scoring, analysis refers to explaining how the author's rhetorical choices develop meaning or achieve a particular effect or purpose.
# 2013 AP® Reading Training Material Cover Sheet

## Sample Student Responses

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In answering the excerpted passage from Richard Louv's _Last Child in the Woods_, the author begins his discussion of humanity's relationship with nature by discussing modern ways of manipulating and transforming nature. In isolation, the examples cited—butterfly wings crafted in the lab, advertisements printed into sand beaches, branding of parks—would hardly face the modern reader, whose everyday life is permeated with such imaginative uses of nature. It is in Louv's critical tone as he casts into sharp relief the relative importance that juxtaposes this "synthetic nature" against "true" nature, however, that becomes apparent his purpose for bringing up the technological marvels becomes clear: reminding his readers to acknowledge that, in thinking the butterfly wing color choice is exciting or that branding of parks is natural, we have parted from the "true" nature of our experiences.

When readers realize that they have succumbed to this commercially-based relationship with nature, they must wonder if Louv's statement—that "true" nature has become irrelevant—applies to them as well.

Throughout the piece, Louv continues to cite experiences of separation from nature that readers are surely familiar with, invoking guilt and reflection upon our own relationship with the natural world. When Louv states that his friend was smart to "draw the line" before buying a backseat television for the car, who routinely keeps their children occupied with videos on long car trips might feel a sinking in their stomach; Louv has called them out for "paying a premium for a little
"Lost in space," And he continues to call them out, an implying hypocrisy when parents who vilify over-watching of television place screens in their cars.

These comparisons between good and bad parenting, between respecting nature and mindless consumer of a synthetic world, invariably put the reader on the side of the error. Lovv is careful never to address the reader directly in these critiques; he talks only of "advertisers" who are to blame for the commercialization of nature, of "parents" and "Americans" who are hypersensitive and over-reliant on technology.

But the implication is that the reader, too, is guilty of their practicing and perpetuating this divide between man and nature, captured in his critical tone and widely-encompassing examples.

The text's shift in tone from critical to nostalgic, how, suggests that Lovv's purpose is not simply to criticize modern life for its preference of isolation from nature. In the third paragraph, the text moves into a discussion of the past. Immediately, the piece takes on a softer tone, as Lovv speaks with reverence for what he had—and what, he argues, we still have. In the final appeal to his ethos, Lovv no longer moves from a discussion of the now to a discussion of his own past. The imagery of 'we' players and the imagery of the world around him (e.g. seeing 'thunderbirds and dancing rain' and 'dreaming' pictures on frayed wires) all contribute to the picture of childhood joy, ease, and simplicity he conjures. It is with bittersweet nostalgia—joy for happiness for what he has experienced, sadness that others might not experience...
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

- that love makes the final, resounding point in his argument. Yes, we should feel guilty for our role in allowing humanity to become distanced from nature; yes, we are complicit in the destruction of once-natural bonds in between man and his world. Ultimately, however, wemust not lose our belief that any change in matters the devastating distance between man and the word must come because we know that nature, in itself, is truly worth interacting with.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

With the increasing role of technology in our lives, we find ourselves drawn further and further into a box and away from the beauty of nature. As Richard Louv argues, the advent of technology distracts our minds from the outside world. Advancements in smart phones and car global positioning devices, among other things, fills our boredom with a new level of hostility and tums us away from the enjoyment of the world around us. In his argument, Louv uses rhetorical questions and parallel syntax to show his readers the unnecessary separation of humans and nature.

In the passage from Last Child in the Woods, Louv questions the hypocrisy behind our insistence to cut down on technology coupled with our initiative to continue improving. The deepening gap between us and our surroundings can only be attributed to increased free time with computers, phones, TVs, etc. Why then, Louv writes, do we "continue to expand the opportunities for them to destroy?" This fundamental question causes readers to see the irony behind their lives. While we strive to be immersed in nature more, we are constantly on the lookout for the newest innovations—a vehicle that "talks to you," genetic technology that allows us to "choose the colors...on a butterfly wing". Louv urges us by asking why we don't find "the physical world, watching?". This two questions persuade readers to stop and realize that we are slipping away from the natural world and into the material world; yet, we may not even notice it. The world goes by in a flash of technology and vivid colors, we are quick to be swept up in the same phenomenon, but we don't understand the consequences of our actions.
Low pushes us to see that we are falling away from nature and we have lost our touch to enjoy it to its fullest. Through his rhetorical questions, Low also uses parallelism to convey the effects of the widening gap between humans and nature. By first posing a hypothetical situation, he creates a future world in which humans are almost addicted to technology. He uses a very simple subject-verb structure to tell his grandchildren what our "old" folk used to do. According to him, "we used our fingers to draw pictures" and "we counted cows and horses and coyotes" and so on. This repetition of the same grammatical construction emphasizes the difference between the present and the future. He details all the things we did to relieve boredom or long road trips, knowing that it would be almost unbearable to the young ones. "The visual connection" between our future descendants and nature is virtually nonexistent, optional at best. By using parallel syntax, Low punctuates these times exactly how the two generations differ. "We stared with a kind of reverence at the horizon," but do you, the subtly questions the clear answer, because you are too tired to up in the latest innovation, he silently prompts. The repetition of sentence structure highlights the difference between past, present and our future.

Put together, the rhetorical questions and the parallel syntax and Low in arguing how technology has changed us. The rhetorical questions reveal the staggering distance between us and nature and
parallelism reveals the effect of such a gap in essence. Lox argues that we, as humans, are falling further and further away from real nature as we become more and more consumed with our electronics. The more we use them, the further we fall. It is up to us to close that separation, lest we lose touch completely with nature.
Richard Louv clearly believes that our relationship with nature is rapidly diminishing—that we are spending not enough time observing and experiencing nature and are quickly and harmfully separating from it. Using anecdotes, imagery, and parallel structure, Richard Louv is able to effectively develop his view that we are becoming too separated from nature.

Louv starts with an anecdote to illustrate the extent to which we are visually losing our connection with nature. Citing the experiences of his friend who was purchasing an automobile, Louv is able to draw attention to how much we are losing nature. Louv writes 

"He [the automobile dealer] almost refused to let me leave the dealership until he could understand why I didn't want a back seat television monitor" when describing the experiences of his friend. This direct quotation, when coupled with the anecdote, validates the assertion that we have become extremely obsessed with these "rear-seat multimedia entertainment products," which is central to Louv's views. This anecdote sets up Louv's argumentation as "children can watch Sesame Street or play Grand Theft Auto without bothering the driver," showing how much we do not interface with nature but instead spend time in the car engaged in these novel technologies. The anecdote Louv offers in his work effectively illustrates the point that we are spending less and less time experiencing nature and are becoming too separated from it.
Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the exam.

The rhetorical questions, parallel syntax, and imagery offered in the remainder of the work solidify Couv's position. Couv asks, "why do so many people no longer consider the physical world worth watching?" This rhetorical question sets up the imagery that follows, which contributes to the logical development ideas found throughout the piece. Following the rhetorical questions, Couv writes, "The highway's edges may not be perfectly perfect... but for a century, children's understanding of how cities and nature was gained from the backseat. These sentences allow Couv to develop the image of a child watching the world from the backseat of a car, and how this has been replaced with separation from nature and an narrow worldview.

The imagery and imagery employed after this sentence is also central to Couv's ideas. Images of an empty farmhouse, "woods," and "a variety of architecture" convey a sense of the nature a child was once able to experience but now is no longer does. The hypothetical situation of a grandchild asking an individual who observed nature through the backseat window with the parallel syntax that follows is also aids in Couv's argumentation. Couv writes, "we saw," "we stood," "we actually looked," in a hypothetical sea response to his grandchild, conveying a sense of what our relationship with nature once was and what it has become. All of the rhetorical strategies employed by Couv allow him to develop the position that we are becoming..."
Louv argues that we as a society are experiencing a dangerous trend - one away from direct exposure to nature and towards the television screens of the backseat. Using a relevant anecdote, imagery, and parallel syntax allowed Louv to effectively convey his message.
In Richard Louv's *Last Child in the Woods*, he expresses his concern for the growing separation between people and nature. To support his argument and convince his readers, Louv utilises the rhetorical strategies of anecdote, rhetorical questions, and imagery.

To introduce his argument, Louv uses an anecdote. He explains the story of a friend who was buying a new car. Louv's friend's experience acts as support for his argument concern over the separation between people and nature. The friend states, "The salesman's jaw dropped when I said I didn't want a backseat television monitor for my daughter." (29-31). While entertaining, the television monitor takes away from nature because it takes the person's focus and puts it solely on technology.

Louv uses his friend's story to show how people are separated from nature, before asking why.

As Louv's work progresses, he begins to question the motives of society, using rhetorical questions. Louv asks his readers, "Why do so many people no longer consider the physical world worth watching?" (44-47).

While creating an almost pleading tone, Louv asks these questions as a way to present his central
argument. Louv subtly addresses the issue of the separation between people and nature, without forcing them to agree with him. By doing this, Louv puts his ideas into his reader's head, and gets them thinking about his argument.

In the final paragraph of the passage, Louv uses extensive imagery to idealize nature. He says, "In our useful boredom... we counted cows and horses and coyotes and shaving-cream signs." (64-67) By explaining common past-times and things passengers do while driving, Louv is building a connection with people and nature. He shows that the presence of technology or media is not needed to entertain people in their cars, because he makes the view of nature seem appealing and exciting.

Richard Louv worries about the connection between people and nature in the passage Last Child in the Woods. Here, he uses anecdote, rhetorical questions, and imagery to introduce, exemplify, and support his argument.
Many see the grass as greener. This is the literal view of Richard Louv in his work _Last Child in the Woods_. Louv believes that today's society is too removed from nature and too enamored with technology. He uses the rhetorical techniques of pathos and ethos in order to accomplish his purpose of criticizing the people of today for distancing themselves from the natural world with a farseeing tone.

Louv accomplishes his pathos appeal by using diction and personification in order to make the days before the pervasive influence of technology. He uses words such as "fascinated", "reverence", and "useful" to describe his own childhood without gameboys and car and players. The choice of words create a sense that the technology free days were still entertaining engaging. He contributes to his cheeky tone when he says they were "fascinated" by extremely ordinary things such as broadkift and cows. Louv also uses the personification
"thunderheads and dancing rain moved with us" to create an emotional appeal for the past. The feeling that they "moved with us" gives the sense that in the good days of his childhood people were more in touch with nature. His nostalgic description of his childhood helps him achieve his purpose of critiquing today's dependence on technology because as the reader we want to be a part of this simple and natural world that he describes because of his emotional figurative language.

Lour uses ethos to make his descriptions of how pervasive technology is in today's world supported and believable, even though he is clearly against society's removal from nature which is evident because of his facetious tone. He describes a successful experiment to genetically alter the color of animals that was done by known and respected State University of New York. The experiment
Louv then goes on to exaggerate the "advertising capabilities" in a sarcastic and over-the-top manner. Louv also uses well-known and watched shows and games such as "Sesame Street" and "Grand Theft Auto" when he describes what children now do in the back seat. Everyone is familiar with the programs and the practice, but Louv then goes on to criticize, saying that looking outside the window is an important part of early spatial awareness. His disdain for children watching movies in the back seat helps to achieve his message that humans and nature have become too far removed. He continues to keep it playful however when he ponders whether 2 generations from now children won't be able to imagine that their grandparents looked out of the car window for fun.

Childhood obesity is a troubling epidemic. Louv's warning that children are too dependent on screens and buttons has merit in this regard. Maybe every once and awhile 2nd graders...
2. Should trade video games in the den for a jump rope at the park.
As the world becomes more influenced by technology, the "true nature" becomes less valued (as with previous eras/laws).
In Richard Louv's "Last Child in the Woods," he analyzes the affect of modern present-day technologies on children's lives today. In one passage, Louv demonstrates the complex and perhaps absurd ways in which children entertain themselves in the car by employing multiple rhetorical strategies to separate between people and nature, through his use of rhetorical strategies in analyzing the affect of advertisement and technologies.

Louv believes that a crucial part of advertising place their logos in nature, he thinks that he appeals to a higher authority when he references Matt Rickett saying "There are countless possibilities for moving ads out of the virtual world and into the real one." (Rickett). Seeing as Louv's book is already far. The quote Louv includes in his writing demonstrates how people and nature are already separated to a great extent, because the quote alludes to people having a strong attachment to this ideal "virtual world." The attachment people have is so great powerful that it causes humans to ignore their nature and simply only focus on their technologies. Therefore, it may be necessary
Question 26BB

It may be necessary for advertisers to place logos in nature so that people will pay more attention to nature and give less of their attention away to technology. According to Louv, the more technology is put in humans' lives, the greater the separation becomes between people and nature. He demonstrates this through his parallel structuring. Louv uses "we" to emphasize his era's lack of fascination with roadkill and "We saw birds...We were fascinated...We stared..." when referring to his father's enthusiasm for the landscape in car rides rather than being consumed in technology as a child (Louv). He also uses various hyperboles when he says, "We were fascinated with roadkill, and we expected cows and horses and coyotes and shaving-cream signs" (Louv). As a child, Louv over exaggerates this section to show how little he and his childhood friends relied on technology. In these ways, Louv shows the separation between nature and people because of technologies by using rhetorical devices.
is influenced by technologies, the further apart people get from nature. Richard Louv demonstrates the separation in his book Last Child in the Woods through his use of rhetorical strategies and when analyzing advertisement the affects of advertisement and technologies on people.
As the generations pass, technology advances, creating changes in lifestyle. Communicating is a big change. As Richard Louv writes in his essay "Last Child in the Woods," this world has become purely based on "material" needs. The once-known views on the physical world have been pushed aside. Through his essay, Louv presents the clear separation now created between nature and its people. The auction he uses through out the first two paragraphs indicate a sense of sarcasm, as he describes his friends purchase of a SUV. Not only was this a deluxe "Mercedes...with Global Positioning System," but it also had the latest and "hottest add-ons." However, these add ons change every day to a point where people continue to want the best and only the best. This was shown as he describes his friend "settled" on this specific one, due to her all her hard ships and accomplishments of surviving in this harsh world.

A clear and evident separation of people and nature was through this physical placement of the two opposing sides. The first two paragraphs being a modern book on the word, "the material world." As the other two paragraphs focused on the relativity of nature and humans attention toward it.
Within the third paragraph, we see a long sentence structure describing all that used to be seen during a car ride. These continuous listing of all the sites creates an effect of time passing. The once long car rides were now enjoyed by using nature and a young child's imagination. The resemblance of a car simply cruising by has shown an accurate representation of how we overlook nature, focusing on the material technology has surely changed the perspective people have on the world. Not only do we allow life to pass us by, we don't fully enjoy the god given things along the way. Before I believe Lown, through his sentence structure, diction, and imagery on the modern actions of society, got his point across very clearly. We must enjoy life, every bit of it, because before you realize it, life will pass you by. And the things you want to cherish forever are not placed on a t.v. screen, they are created through the journeys taken along the way.
Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv focuses on technological advances and how technology is slowly taking over the world. In his opening paragraph, Louv gives an example of how a scientific discovery influences advertisers to give a negative view of nature. The example Louv uses is in 2002 when the announcement of genetically choosing the colors that appear on a butterfly's wings through technology at NY State in Buffalo. Writer Matt Richtel then proceeds to indirectly state that with how many endless possibilities come from nature that nature should care for itself.

Louv expresses concern over the technological advancements by bringing in a personal experience of a friend: "The saleswoman's jaw dropped when I said I didn't want a carseat television monitor for my daughter." (line 29-31). He later expresses the same concern in the concluding paragraph of the passage: "Yes, we'll say, "it's true. We actually looked out the car window." (line 61-62). Louv is somewhat saying that as technology advances children lose good experiences such as "held our little
plastic cars against the grass and pretended that they, too, were racing toward some unknown destination." (line 69-71).

Last child in the woods was published in 2008 predicting now technology would develop further with the next generation. Those who had interest in this novel share their childhood of playing outside and venturing with their eyes through car windows. These people most likely would like the same childhood for their children and grandchildren alive:
Richard Louv discussed the separation of humans and nature in "The Last Child in the Woods." He explains the evolution of technology about the basics to extreme future ideas. Louv mostly does this by his appeal to logos.

Throughout Louv's argument, he uses logos, such as quotes from highly credible sources. By doing so, he is able to really express the evolution of humans and nature and how they have become distant.

Louv does a great job at quoting a variety of sources such as researchers, a car owner and future adults. His use of logos opens the mind and to understand what visualize where the topic of humans and nature has gone throughout many years.

Overall, Louv did a nice job at showing the separation of humans and nature by his use of logos; however, Louv needed to also incorporate the two other rhetorical appeals to fully communicate his argument.
Louv did not appeal to any sort of pathos. Readers need to feel his emotions in order to get the full effect of his argument. Louv also did not show any sort of credibility to himself. He does not prove to the readers that he has the full knowledge and experience to be talking about this topic.

Had Louv used all three rhetorical appeals in his argument, this would have been effective. He needed to use more than just quotes from credible sources.