

American citizens should not be required to vote because it puts too much pressure on them. A lot of U.S. citizens like to stay neutral and really don't have an opinion about anyone that's being voted for. In text 4 it's stated, "... in the last four Australian federal elections the results would have been the same even had the voting been voluntary or not.." This shows that compulsory voting would not change or have an impact on voting results in the U.S.. In text 2 it's stated, "Another consequence of compulsory voting is the possible high number of "random votes." This means that people who don't take voting seriously will vote for whoever for no reason which doesn't really help the point of compulsory voting. If people want to vote, they will; if you force people to vote they won't take it seriously. In text 3 it says, "Some apolitical citizens might choose candidates arbitrarily or for the wrong reasons because they do not want to be fined or punished for not doing their hypothetical duty." This is also stating that people that are forced to vote will just vote for whoever because they don't want to receive a fine. This will make the results inaccurate and the voting would be unfair. The U.S. should stay with voluntary voting because it works good enough.

Anchor Level 3–A

The essay introduces a reasonable claim, as directed by the task (*American citizens should not be required to vote because it puts too much pressure on them*). The essay demonstrates some analysis of the texts, but insufficiently distinguishes the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*This shows that compulsory voting would not change or have an impact on voting results in the U.S.*). The essay presents ideas briefly, making use of some specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*In text 3 it says, "Some apolitical citizens might choose candidates arbritrarily or for the wrong reasons because they do not want to be fined or punished for not doing their hypothetical duty"*). The essay demonstrates inconsistent citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material by not including line numbers (*In text 4 it's stated*). The essay exhibits some organization of ideas and information to create a mostly coherent essay, first introducing the claim, followed by three quotations from three different texts supporting the claim, with a brief analysis of each as it is presented, and concluding with a reiteration of the claim (*The U.S. should stay with voluntary voting because it works good enough*). The essay establishes but fails to maintain a formal style, using primarily basic language (*really don't have an opinion about anyone that's being voted for and which doesn't really help the point of compulsory voting*) and a structure with no delineation of paragraphs. The essay demonstrates partial control, exhibiting occasional errors (*text 2, for whoever, recieve*) that do not hinder comprehension.

Democracy is about the freedom of the people.

If they have the right to vote, shouldn't they have the right to not vote? We have the right to free speech, but we also have the right to remain silent. Why not the same with voting? Although most ~~countries~~^{countries} follow the policy of voluntary voting, some make it mandatory. Australia adopted non-voting in 1924, and have a fine for non-voters (text 1, lines 14-15).

Voting is a freedom, not an obligation. By forcing people to vote, you'd be taking away from them what voting is all about. Those who do not vote, may have a specific reason behind it, or simply do not wish to vote, and that is perfectly fine. Forcing voting will also increase the number of random voting and people will pick a candidate at random resulting in a random candidate to be elected. (text 2, lines 27-29)

Voting should be carried out by those who care, rather than those who don't.

People shouldn't be required to vote, it takes away the democracy and their freedom. People have a right to their own choice.

Anchor Level 3-B

The essay introduces a reasonable claim, as directed by the task (*Voting is a freedom, not an obligation*). The essay demonstrates some analysis of the texts (*Forcing voting will also increase the number of random voting and people will pick a candidate at random resulting in a random candidate to be elected*), but insufficiently distinguishes the claim from alternate or opposing claims (*Although most countries follow the policy of voluntary voting, some make it mandatory*). The essay presents ideas briefly, making use of some specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*Australia adopted non voting in 1924, and have a fine for non voters* and *Voting is a freedom, not an obligation*). The essay demonstrates proper citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material [(text 1, lines 14-15 and text 2, lines 27-29)]. The essay exhibits acceptable organization of ideas and information to create a coherent essay, first introducing the claim, then developing the argument against forced voting in the single body paragraph (*Those who do not vote, may have a specific reason behind it, or simply do not wish to vote, and that is perfectly fine*), and concluding with a reiteration of the claim (*People have a right to their own choice*). The essay establishes, but fails to maintain a formal style, using primarily basic language and structure (*Democracy is about the freedom of the people* and *By forcing people to vote, you'd be taking away from them what voting is all about*). The essay demonstrates partial control, exhibiting occasional errors (*Australia ... have a fine; vote, may; to vote, it takes*) that do not hinder comprehension. This essay must be scored no higher than a Level 3 since it addresses fewer than the three texts required.

After reading the four passages in my opinion voting is essential and all American citizens should be required to vote. The reason why I say this is because voting allows your voice to be heard and when your voice is heard the government is able to make changes that will benefit you as a citizen.

Voting should indeed be mandatory as text 1 says "Jury duty is mandatory; why not voting?" By voting in elections a person isn't only speaking for themselves they are speaking for the ones who are just like them. In lines 29-30 of text 1 it says "People with lower levels of income and education are less likely to vote, as are young adults and recent first-generation immigrants." This affects our country negatively because people ^{who do vote} who are similar to the ones who don't vote are less likely to be heard therefore changes in our country most likely won't benefit them.

As text ^{the first line of text 4 says} 1 says "Democracy is an achievement that has come about through determination, hard work, struggle and even bloodshed." What this means is that for the United States to gain a democracy a lot had to be done. People

including our ancestors and founding fathers fought for the democracy that we have today. Not voting to ~~me~~ me can be considered idiotic. All the hard work done and some choose not to vote? ... It doesn't make sense. To add on voting can't hurt anyone it only makes our country better. "Mandatory voting would tend to even out disparities stemming from income, education and age, enhancing our system's inclusiveness." (Text 1). Voting benefits our country heavily in the long run.

Anchor Level 3–C

The essay introduces a reasonable claim, as directed by the task (*all American citizens should be required to vote*). The essay demonstrates a confused and unclear analysis of the texts (*people who do vote who are similar to the ones who don't vote are less likely to be heard*), failing to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims. The essay presents ideas briefly, making use of some specific and relevant evidence to support analysis (*as text 1 says "Jury duty is mandatory; why not voting?"*). The essay demonstrates inconsistent citation of sources to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material (*text 1 says, lines 29-30 of text 1, the first line of text 4*). The essay exhibits inconsistent organization of ideas and information, failing to create a coherent essay. The essay first introduces the claim, followed by one body paragraph that presents a confused discussion of voters *speaking for the ones who are just like them* and a second unfocused body paragraph that moves from mentioning *Democracy and our...founding fathers* to a personal response to nonvoting and back to the evening out of *disparities* referred to in the prior paragraph. The essay concludes with a one sentence re-statement of the claim. The essay lacks a formal style, using some language that is inappropriate (*can be considered idiotic*) and imprecise (*As text the first line of text 4 says and to add on voting can't hurt anyone*). The essay demonstrates emerging control, exhibiting occasional errors (*essencial, benefit, mandatory as, a person ... theirselves*) that hinder comprehension.

~~Yes~~ ^{NO} American citizens should ^{not} be required to vote in national elections because it is based on the Nation by the gov't. ~~As~~ the text I would be using to support my claim is text one "Telling Americans to vote, or Else, In the text it says Thirty one Countries have some form of mandatory voting according to the international Institute for democracy and Electoral Assistance, which says they have to vote in national elections even if it isn't your nation. Mandatory voting would tend to even out disparities stemming from income, education and age, enhancing our system's inclusiveness. This means you would eventually have to vote in national elections no matter the age or educational ~~the~~ standard you have. The next text that I will be talking about is "Compulsory voting" this is when a high number of random voting comes from free willing people, which also means people who don't want ~~to~~ to vote. In conclusion to my ~~my~~ essay National elections should not consist of American citizens but everybody in the nation living there.

Anchor Level 2–A

The essay introduces a claim (*No American citizens should not be required to vote in national elections because it is based on the Nation by the gov't*). The essay demonstrates a confused and unclear analysis of the texts (*In the text it says Thirty one countries have some form of mandatory voting according to the internationa institue for democracy and Electoral Assistance. Which says they have to vote in national elections even if it is'nt your nation and This means you would eventually have to vote ... no matter the age or educational standard you have*). The essay presents ideas inconsistently and inaccurately, in an attempt to support analysis, making use of some evidence that may be irrelevant (*The next text ... is "compulsory voting" this is when a high number of random voting comes from free willing people. Which also means people who dont want to vote*). The essay demonstrates little use of citations to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material, using no quotation marks when copying sentences from Text 1 and closely paraphrasing lines from Text 2 and not including line numbers. The essay exhibits inconsistent organization of ideas and information, failing to create a coherent essay. The one-paragraph essay introduces a claim that supports mandatory voting, then presents direct quotes from two texts, followed by a confused explanation of each and a conclusion which does not support the claim (*In conclusion to my essay national elections shoud not consit of American citizens but everybody in the nation living there*). The essay lacks a formal style, using some language that is imprecise (*it is based on the Nation by the gov't and support my calm*). The essay demonstrates emerging control, exhibiting occasional errors (*No America, I would be, is 'nt, Voting" this, dont, essay national*) that hinder comprehension.

I believe American citizens should be required to vote in national elections. The reason I say this is because as a US citizen you should be aware of what is going on in your government. Also with that being said, once you are aware of it you should vote for the candidate that you believe will make this country a better place.

In Text 1 - telling Americans to vote, or else help support my opinion because Americans need to vote because if they don't vote bad things can happen, like things that are bad.

In Text 2 compulsory voting helps support my opinion because it is your right to vote as a US citizen and you should vote so you can help determine who will be in the government.

In Text 3 - Does Mandatory voting Restrict or Expand Democracy help support my opinion because mandatory voting Restrict Democracy because we would not have the freedom to vote.

In Text 4 - How Compulsory voting Subverts Democracy supports my opinion because voting should be up to you and I

Anchor Level 2–B

The essay introduces a claim (*I beleve American citizens should be required to vote in national elections*). The essay demonstrates a confused and unclear analysis of the texts (*In text 3- ... help suport my opion becaus Madatory voting Restrict Democracy because we would not have the freedom to vote*), failing to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims. The essay presents ideas inconsistently and inaccurately, in an attempt to support analysis, making use of some evidence that may be irrelevant (*In Text 1 - ... suport my opion because Americans need to vote because if they don't vote bad things can happen. Like things that are bad*). The essay demonstrates little use of citations to avoid plagiarism when dealing with direct quotes and paraphrased material by simply identifying each text (*In Text 1, In Text 2, In text 3, In text 4*), but not using any actual directly quoted or paraphrased material from any of them. The essay exhibits inconsistent organization of ideas and information, failing to create a coherent essay. The essay consists of an introduction which both states and explains the claim, followed by four one-sentence paragraphs each of which offers a brief personal response to one of the texts. There is no conclusion. The essay lacks a formal style, using some language that is imprecise (*Like things that are bad* and *In Text 2 ... helps suport*). The essay demonstrates a lack of control, exhibiting frequent errors (*beleve; US citizen; opion; vote bad; happen. Like; righ; determin*) that make comprehension difficult.

Americans in the United States need to vote for his freedom. Americans need to vote for his freedom. Because without freedom of speech then the president and the governments has total control of us.

first it says that one should go Jury Duty. Because it is mandatory. It is one citizenship that one should go to Jury Duty, It is one interest to vote.

The next text says it is a law that one should have to vote for their democracy. Voting is based on a number of votes. People ages 18 and older have the right to vote on Election day.

Anchor Level 2-C

The essay introduces a claim (*Americans in the United States need to vote for his freedom*). The essay demonstrates a confused and unclear analysis of the texts (*Americans need to vote for his freedom Because without freedom of speech then the president and the governments has total control of us*), failing to distinguish the claim from alternate or opposing claims. The essay presents little evidence from the texts, inserting partial and confused details from two texts (*one should go Jury Duty Because it is mandatory* and *it is a law that one should have to vote for their democracy*). The essay does not make use of citations (*First it says* and *The next text says*). The essay exhibits inconsistent organization of ideas and information, failing to create a coherent essay, introducing a claim and attempting to support it with loosely connected and vague evidence from two texts. There is no conclusion. The essay lacks a formal style, using some language that is imprecise (*It is one citizenship that one should go to Jury Duty, It is one interest to vote*). The essay demonstrates a lack of control, exhibiting frequent errors (*United States need, speech, governments has, mandatory, Jury Duty, one ... their*) that make comprehension difficult.

Should Americans be allowed to vote in National elections?
~~Coming to~~ ~~was a place~~ ~~was a place~~ ~~build and~~ ~~created~~ ~~upon~~ ~~the~~ ~~image~~
America ~~was a place~~ ~~created~~ ~~upon~~ ~~the~~ ~~image~~
of its Foreign Fathers. The idea of America was to be a land of
Freedom, liberty and the Privilege to ~~the~~ ~~pursuit~~ ~~of~~ ~~happiness~~. America was
once a great nation because ~~of~~ ~~foreign~~ ~~words~~ ~~was~~ ~~written~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~
~~a~~ ~~declaration~~ ~~of~~ ~~independence~~, and what was written what in
was a phrase, a phrase that ~~is~~ ~~only~~ ~~one~~ ~~word~~ but ~~it~~ ~~means~~ ~~rose~~ ~~strong~~
~~a~~ ~~lot~~ ~~meaning~~ "Freedom!"

Our Foreign ancestors believe in Freedom, that
Freedom that has been taking away from Americans.
But who is to ~~be~~ ~~blame~~? ~~The~~ ~~government~~
or the people, The
people ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~problem~~ because ~~the~~ ~~people~~ are the
government. The people ~~has~~ ~~always~~ ~~blame~~ the government
knowing that they have the ~~power~~ ~~to~~ ~~change~~ ~~course~~
or influence the government to take away this liberties
from them. "ASK what you can do for this country,
~~But~~ ~~ASKING~~ ~~FOR~~ ~~what~~ ~~can~~ ~~this~~ ~~country~~ ~~do~~ ~~for~~ ~~me~~" -
John F. Kennedy. ~~It~~ ~~is~~ ~~other~~ ~~words~~ ~~instead~~ ~~of~~ ~~asking~~
~~shoot~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~ & if ~~we~~ Americans could be
allowed to vote in National elections? ASK yourself
~~do~~ ~~we~~ ~~deserve~~
Should Americans ~~to~~ ~~deserve~~ to vote in National
elections?

& Another great point is the
government should have his own reasons
why he ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~has~~ ~~not~~ ~~allow~~ the people
to vote in National elections. Or maybe
he's on his ~~process~~ ~~or~~ ~~working~~ on the
National election for the Americans to
vote.

Anchor Paper – Part 2 – Level 1 – A

In Conclasion Stop blaming the
government, istead help him. And before
you even think of ~~complainig~~ ^{complainig} ~~totting~~ ^{totting} for why
you can't ^{vote for} the National election ASK yourself
What have I done that the Government
is not allowing me to vote in the National
Election?

Anchor Level 1–A

The essay does not introduce a claim or demonstrate analysis of the texts. The essay is a personal response that focuses on the question of whether Americans *should ... be allowed to vote in National elections* and makes no reference to the task or texts. The essay presents no evidence from the texts and does not make use of citations. The essay exhibits some organization through the use of paragraphing and a loosely maintained focus on the government's right to vote, but lacks a formal style, using some language that is inappropriate and imprecise (*Another great point is the government should have his own reasons why he has not allow the people to vote in National elections*). The essay demonstrates a lack of control of conventions, exhibiting frequent errors (*wrriten whitin, is to be blame, government ... his own reasons, In Conclasion, istead*) that make comprehension difficult. The essay is a personal response, making little to no reference to the task or the texts, and, therefore, can be scored no higher than a 1.

Anchor Paper – Part 2 – Level 1 – B

The question "should American citizens be required to vote in national elections?" comes up many times. Some people say that citizens should vote, others disagree with that. ~~Some~~ citizens should be required to vote in national elections.

Anchor Level 1–B

The essay introduces a claim (*Citizens should be required to vote in national elections*) but does not demonstrate analysis of the texts. The essay presents no evidence from the texts and does not make use of citations. The essay consists of three statements and is minimal, making assessment unreliable. The essay is minimal, making assessment of conventions unreliable.

Americans should ~~not~~ not be required to vote. Although it seems like the right thing because their citizens they shouldn't "HAVE" to. If forced to vote in all elections, citizens might rebel because their being forced to do something that was once a choice. In text 1, I described of a law passed in Australia that forced citizens to vote. "Committed even citizens of modest means and limited education with neighborhood institutions and gave them a sense of participation in national politics as well (quoted from text). Meaning poor or unemployed people ~~and~~ and uneducated people were able to ~~vote~~ vote. Why let an uneducated man vote? How does that help the economy? Those same uneducated men can be the same men to hurt the economy shall they choose the wrong person.

However, in text 2 it states "Advocates of compulsory voting argue that ~~decisions made~~ decisions made by democratically elected governments are more legitimate when higher proportions of the population participate. I agree to disagree with this sure the more people that vote the better but lets bring it into what was said in text 4 "Quality rather than quantity should be the focus of a healthy democracy. Voting should be carried out by those who care, by those who want to vote" ~~By forcing people to vote~~ By forcing people to vote will cause bad results because a lot of people simply wouldn't care who they vote for.

Which brings me to my last reason. As stated in text 2 "Another consequence of compulsory voting is the possible high number of random votes." It goes on to say as long as the government is satisfied people don't care who they vote for. Aside from this forcing Americans to vote also violates the constitution. As stated in text 3 "For many Americans, the right to vote also implies the right not to vote. In fact, some people might even interpret mandatory voting as a violation of First Amendment's Prohibition of Compelled Speech." If Americans feel their rights are violated their opinions are rebel or impeach, if you ask me their both pretty bad.

Americans should not be required to vote simply because voting is optional it should be changed to something forced upon them. Would you rather have a random election or a valid election? Mandating voting will lead to a random election because of the majority of random votes. Although more people voting would help the election, in more ways it'll hinder it.

The United States has come a long way in politics. From being under the control of Great Britain to creating a republic, the government finally settled on an important concept, democracy. People associate the term "democracy" with the word freedom. What exactly does this mean? People are entitled to certain rights as American citizens, such as freedom of speech and religion. People have the right to make decisions for themselves. If people have this freedom, wouldn't a compulsory act violate this freedom? Making the right to vote ^{compulsory} not only violates one's rights, but also goes against the very foundation that this nation was built on.

Many democratic nations have enforced compulsory voting in society as seen in Texts 1, 2 and 3. These nations require everyone over a certain age to vote, unless there is a legitimate reason not to such as illness and foreign travels (Text 1, lines 16-18). In fact, if voting is not done, small fines can be issued. How can this policy be democratic? Forcing people to vote goes against ~~the~~ right to exhibit free will. In addition, citizens are punished with fines if they do not comply to the policy.

The author of Text 1 argues that citizens are strong on rights, but weak on responsibilities. Citizens are necessarily weak on responsibilities if they choose not to vote. Voting is not a responsibility or an obligation. It is more of a personal belief. Mandating voting ~~could~~ could be seen as going against the Constitution. "States have enormous power over voting procedures" (Text 1, line 53). Mandating voting would lead to increased opposition from these states and anger over the violation of tradition.

Compulsory voting creates the risk of random voting. Voters may just check off a candidate a random rather than examine both campaigns before making a decision (Text 2, line 28). "Random" voting questions and creates skepticism about the legitimacy of the government, since people can vote to fulfill their civic duty instead of ~~seriously~~ seriously voting (Text 2 lines 29-32). These concerns are similarly mentioned in Text 3. People can vote to avoid fines or vote to fulfill their duty without ~~choosing~~ choosing

the right candidate based on their policies

Why should one's rights be violated if compulsory voting makes little or no difference on the final outcome of an election (Text 4 lines 33-35)? It does not matter how many people vote. What matters is that these citizens are voting fairly, based not on randomness or avoiding fines, but on genuine interest in politics and the policies that ~~offer~~ the candidates have to offer.

American citizens should not be required to vote in national elections. America is a democracy, but we also get in the Constitution freedom of speech. It is one of the first three ~~amendments~~ amendments which is called the Bill of Rights. In passage 2 on line 5 they explain that some countries have penalties for not voting. People in the U.S. should have a say if they don't want to vote or not. No one should force them because we are entitled to our own opinions. ~~The~~ The citizens vote isn't even the real vote our voting is just to ~~give~~ give an example ~~for~~ for Congress ~~or~~ or other officials to place their votes. In passage 1 line 1 it ~~asks~~ asks "Jury duty is mandatory, why not voting?" well Jury duty is to help settle a ~~case~~ ^{criminal} case with no basic opinions, it makes sense why that would be mandatory. That is helping out the federal government. Voting doesn't really do any good anyways. We only are used for examples. What if a person doesn't agree with either person running for office? They would have to vote for someone they don't want? No. They should be entitled to their freedom and not be pressured into doing something they don't want.

In passage 4 line ~~38~~³⁸+39 states[®] that
If the people running needs votes
they should be more appealing to the
voters. Everyone ~~of~~ Corce wants the
voters to vote but forcing people
is just not the right answer.

We've reached a point in American society where it may be necessary to require ^{by law} that American citizens vote in national elections. While some might claim that this would ^{under the US Constitution} infringe upon our rights as citizens, the vast majority of eligible Americans are choosing not to fulfill their civic duty as citizens every ^{November}. Voting in itself is a citizen's given right but it is also that citizen's civic duty to fulfill that right. While initially compulsory voting may seem a bit ~~extreme~~ extreme there would be ^{various positive factors that would outweigh the negatives.} ~~various positive factors that would outweigh the negatives.~~

Recently voter turnout sunk to record lows, a staggering 25% of Americans who are registered to vote actually bother to make their voices heard and only about half of eligible Americans are even registered. This miniscule turnout ~~creates serious~~ reaps some ~~rather~~ severe ~~consequences~~ consequences, which could be resolved rather simply with the ~~the~~ institution of a compulsory voting law. A compulsory voting regulation would fall right in line with the very basis of representative democracy— which is what America was truly meant to be. The purpose of democracy is to keep ^{in the political process} all citizens involved and allow them to make their voices heard. Just as Text 1, Line 20 states: "A democracy cannot be strong if its citizenship is weak." A democracy

cannot live up to its full potential if the citizens of said democracy refuse to do their part.

If voting in national elections is made mandatory obviously there will be a greater number of people voting and along with greater numbers of people will come increased diversity. The voters will produce a more representative sample and take into account the ideals and concerns of people from different political, social, economic, religious, cultural and educational backgrounds. This increased representation could lead to increased government confidence and satisfaction. So many people say "My one vote won't make a difference," but when there are millions of people saying ~~that~~ it's no longer one vote, it's millions. Along with increased diversity a compulsory vote will strengthen democracy and moderate partisanism. Right now the majority of those who go out and vote are extremists. Those who are more middle of the road don't necessarily see the point, which is problematic because the fact of the matter is that the vast majority of people actually lie somewhere in the middle.

and it certainly does make a difference!

While the concern about instituting a compulsory voting regulation, especially that of the "random vote", is rather reasonable (Text 2, Lines 27-28)

it could be worked around. Along with a compulsory voter regulation would have to come some sort of program to adequately educate voters on candidates and the issues at hand. Ideally voters would be educated and they'd turn out in gargantuan numbers.

Text 3, Lines 38-43 hit the nail on the head when they say we don't just need voters, we need educated ones.

The right to vote granted to Americans is widely misunderstood and entirely taken for granted. A compulsory vote would re-instill the ~~values~~ values of citizenship into the masses and eventually with truly representative elections restore the American people's faith in the government. This can only really be achieved though if the voting system is tailored. Australia turned to compulsory voting when their poll turnout dipped below 60%. Here in the US voter turnout has dipped below 30% on numerous occasions. That's a strong indication that it's time for a change.

The way people participate today in political elections is unacceptable. The percentage of voters, those who actually participate in regional or national elections, has decreased greatly in the past forty years. Voter turnout is so low that many blame the problems of a weak government on the lack of participation in voting. I believe America's citizens have a civic duty to take ~~part~~^{part} in elections. In my ~~own~~ opinion, I see Election Day as a citizen's opportunity to make a choice and express their ideas about who should run their state and their country. Mandatory voting would ensure everyone's voice is heard.

Text 1, line 1 states, "Jury duty is mandatory; why not voting?" Some might argue that "mandatory voting" would be a violation of the first amendment and that forcing people to participate in elections could be considered "unconstitutional," or even "un-American." Americans have the right to feel this way, however, they should also have the right to voice their opinions. ~~Text 1~~ In text 1 lines 25-26, the author says that "a democracy will take into account the interests and views of all citizens." If voting is not mandatory, then only the ones who participate will be heard. How can a democracy function if a large portion of the citizens don't voice their opinions? People accept jury duty as mandatory because we need to have citizens views present in the court system. Why wouldn't we want all views in choosing representatives?

In addition to more voices being heard when everyone is expected to vote, "decisions made by democratically elected governments are more legitimate when higher proportions of the population participate" (Text 2, 10-11). The decrease in turnout rates ^{since} from the 1960's has led to inequality at the polls. "People with

Lower levels of income and education are less likely to vote, as are young adults and recent first-generation immigrants (Text 1, lines 29-30). Because of this, politicians do not spend as much time or effort on the issues related to these groups. They are not equally represented and their needs are not addressed. If voting were mandatory, citizens who normally don't vote or pay attention to politics would need to equip themselves with information ~~and~~ about candidates and issues. In turn, ^(Text 3, lines 22-24) candidates would need to pay attention to the issues of all of the citizens, not just those with money and education. More responsibility for voters therefore leads to more responsibility for politicians.

What America needs is more participation in government. Voting should join taxes and jury duty as mandatory requirements for citizens. While some see this as contradictory to the American theme of democracy^{and freedom}, I see it as actually improving our country. If more people are involved and more people are paid attention to, America will be a more fair and equal society.

Practice Paper A – Score Level 3

Holistically, this essay best fits the criteria for Level 3.

Practice Paper B – Score Level 4

Holistically, this essay best fits the criteria for Level 4.

Practice Paper C – Score Level 2

Holistically, this essay best fits the criteria for Level 2.

Practice Paper D – Score Level 5

Holistically, this essay best fits the criteria for Level 5.

Practice Paper E – Score Level 4

Holistically, this essay best fits the criteria for Level 4.