

Smarthinking Tutor Response Form

Your tutor has written overview comments about your essay in the form below. Your tutor has also embedded comments [**in bold and in brackets**] within your essay. Thank you for choosing Smarthinking to help you improve your writing!

Hello, Angelica! My name is Kaitlin F., and I look forward to working with you on this **Grammar and Documentation Review** to improve your writing today. Let's get started!

***Writing Strength:**

Your essay demonstrates a solid understanding of transitional phrases, Angelica:

- To begin with, most states in the United State have implemented various anti-bullying legislation but unfortunately most of the laws implemented are less effective.
- Another way of preventing incidences such as shooting is by breaking the culture of silence.

Words like "to begin with" and "another way" signal to readers how you move from one thought to the next, helping them follow along. Well done!

Sentence Structure:

An issue to watch out for, ~~Angelica~~, is subject-verb agreement. Certain verb forms belong with certain subject types, and straying from matching pairs can cause confusion for your readers. For example, let's consider the verb "to have."

- First person singular: I have a wagon.
- First person plural: We have a wagon.
- Second person, singular or plural: You have a wagon.
- Third person singular: The dog has a wagon.
- Third person plural: The dogs have a wagon.

Notice how the third person singular subject is the only one that calls for a different form of "have" in the present tense. This form holds true even when a form of "to have" is used as a helping verb:

- I have sold my wagon.
- We have given our wagon away.
- You have lost your wagon.
- The dog has jumped into the wagon.
- The dogs have seen your wagon before.

Now look at the follow sentence from your essay:

- Before many schools in US were enlightened, some individuals has been unfortunate by going through victimization in their schools which make their life to get along with those of their peers or teachers.

"Individuals" is a plural subject of the third person. How might you make sure that subject agrees with the verb following it?

Try reading your essay aloud, Angelica, either to yourself or a friend or family member. Ask them to listen for any verbs that sound off in their subject agreement. For more details on this topic, take a look at this lesson from our Writer's Handbook: [Subject-Verb Agreement](#).



Grammar & Mechanics:

Your essay has a few nonessential phrases or clauses (parts of a sentence that can be removed without changing the sentence's meaning) missing commas, Angelica. Commas signal to readers where these nonessential parts start and end, in order to avoid confusion with the necessary parts of a sentence. Let's consider an example and how to correct it:

- Incorrect: The vehicles remained undamaged rolling to a stop before crashing.

In this sentence, the nonessential phrase is "rolling to a stop before crashing" because the rest of the sentence can do without it:

- Correct: The vehicles remained undamaged.

To help readers recognize this information as nonessential, it's important to put a comma before the phrase:

- Correct: The vehicles remained undamaged, rolling to a stop before crashing.

Nonessential phrases can also come at the very beginning of a sentence:

- Incorrect: During spring days the dogs like to play outside.
- Correct: During spring days, the dogs like to play outside.

Using the above strategy, consider how you might correct the following excerpt from your essay:

- Most recently, there was a shooting incident at Parkland Florida that took place in a high school resulting to seventeen death and similar number of people nursing injuries.

Now go back through your essay, Angelica. Locate any nonessential information and make sure they're properly set aside with commas. For more information on this topic, read over this lesson in our [Writer's Handbook on Commas](#).

Documentation:


I'm concerned with the use of resources in your paper, Angelica, because referencing outside sources without giving them proper documentation is considered plagiarism. Any information that is not your opinion or common knowledge requires documentation. By providing parenthetical documentation and a properly formatted works cited page, you can avoid plagiarism. Here is an example of an MLA-style parenthetical documentation:


- On being a published author, Gail Carson Levine writes, "I want to share what I've learned with as many kids as I can" (7).

Note that even if you're not quoting your source, you still have to give them parenthetical credit for their ideas:

- Some authors write because they enjoy sharing their experiences (Levine 7).

With the above information in mind, consider how you might add proper documentation to the following excerpt from your essay:

- 
- For instance, the killer of thirty-two innocent college students and member of the faculty in 2007 at the Virginia Tech decided to target less vulnerable group as surrogates for his former classmates who had bullied him in middle and high school.

How do you know this information, ? How might you make sure that each quote or reference throughout your essay bears proper attribution? For more information on this topic, look at this lesson from our Writer's Handbook on [Documentation](#).

Summary of Next Steps:

- Ensure your subjects and verb agree with one another
- Correct nonessential phrases lacking commas
- Add parenthetical documentation to your source references

Thank you for submitting your essay for a review, . I enjoyed helping you with this step in the revision process. Have a good day! .

You can find more information about writing, grammar, and usage in the [SmarterThinking Writer's Handbook](#).

Please look for comments **[in bold and in brackets]** in your essay below.
Thank you for submitting your work to SmarterThinking! We hope to see you again soon.




Shooting in School and Prevention Measures

Most recently, there was a shooting incident at Parkland Florida that took place in a high school resulting to seventeen death and similar number of people nursing injuries. A 19 years old Nikolas Cruz was identified by an eye witness as the responsible criminal for the shooting that occurred. Although there has been confession from Cruz, police and the prosecutor are yet to give the motive behind the shooting as still there is ongoing investigation on disciplinary issues

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~


Some children may start as bully but may end up in other big crimes such as shooting maybe because they were not dealt with early while they were practicing bullying. [**- This sentence, ~~XXXXXX~~, contains an example of a noun that is missing an article (a, an, or the). Most common nouns require a word that specifies how readers are supposed to interpret information. For example, if I were to talk about a dog, I may be referring to any dog. However, if I were to talk about *the* dog, I'm referring to a specific one. It wouldn't make sense for me to talk about just dog. What word in the preceding sentence is missing an article or other identifying word? For more information on this topic, take a look at this lesson from our Writer's Handbook on Articles and Other Determiners.**] For the safety of children and school at large, vigilant action need to be taken while dealing with bullying case to prevent the cancer of vengeance from growing wide and thus parent like me will not be worried about the well-being of my children at school.

Another way of preventing incidences such as shooting is by breaking the culture of silence. Silence culture among the student in United State School has negative effect on prevention of cases of school shooting. This was a result of students ignoring remarks about some criminal plans and decide to remain silent as snitching is considered uncool behaviour even where it could potentially save lives. There has some improvement about that although is at the expense of death since 1999 Columbine massacre which made student change their perception on the willing to report any security issues to the resource officer, their parents or their teachers(Jack Levin, n.p) .Due to perception change by students some school planned massacres including the New Bedford and Marshfield have been averted .If Nicolas Cruz classmate had broken the culture of silence after know the suspect was fascinated with guns and violence , they would have reported to the authorities and avert any impending problem .School stakeholders should do



as well as any unnerving behaviour. [**- This sentence, Angelica, contains another example of nonessential information lacking proper signalling. What information might the sentence do without? How might you use punctuation to better mark the boundaries of that information?]** What concerns me more about the incident at Parkland Florida are the worries of my children who go to school who might become victims of such criminal activities. It is also evident without doubt there has been several violent school shooting reported across the United State. As most of the shooting has happened without being detected, it raises a lot of question about the well-being of our children if immediate solutions are not implemented. To prevent school shooting incidences, authorities need to implement various strategies and address the prevalence of bullying as and the main underlying factor. The essay will therefore tackle way of preventing school shooting incidences.

To begin with, most states in the United State have implemented various anti-bullying legislation but unfortunately most of the laws implemented are less effective. To enforce the laws, the government should ensure that schools giving room for bullying are held responsible to act as an example to others. This is by ensuring that schools that do not intervene to stop vice from escalating facing tough sanctions. Before many schools in US were enlightened, some individuals has been unfortunate by going through victimization in their schools which make their life to get along with those of their peers or teachers. For instance, the killer of thirty-two innocent college students and member of the faculty in 2007 at the Virginia Tech decided to target less vulnerable group as surrogates for his former classmates who had bullied him in middle and high school. Such occurrences, could lead to someone like Nikolas Cruz using the same psycho-logic in executing his crime. As a parent have children who attend school it of big concern to the safety of my children on how they are treated and how they behave at school.



anything possible to ensure that reporting a threatening behaviour becomes socially acceptable among students. Parent should play major role of ensuring their children have the required discipline and also has the courage to share with the issues that maybe of danger to their security at school.

Another way of preventing the chances of school shooting is by reducing media coverage to a reasonable extent. Media plays a noble role in informing the public and also in giving comfort to those hit by tragic actions such as residents of Parkland Florida. However with their noble role, too much of coverage regarding to school shooting may give criminals a copycat phenomenon thus motivating them to execute their plans in different locations. For instance, most student who attacked their classmates in 1999 were influenced by the columbine massacre activities. Media has the role of informing the society and also protecting the society by ensuring they are responsible with their coverage so as not bring more problems that good.

Reducing accessibility of semi-automatic rifles which are mostly used in school shooting and another way of preventing the problem from occurring. Ban on assault weapon may not be necessary to all people but it should be regulated carefully to ensure it doesn't fall in the hands of trouble people suffering from various mental and psychological problems. Nikolas Cruz had psychological condition as a result of his mother death and also there was bad relationship with the family that took him and more to that he was expelled from school. The authority has the duty of monitoring all those owning any rifles and they should be cleared of any psychological conditions as they are easily offended (Ray Sanchez, 1).

To wind up, they are many factors that leads to incidents such as school shooting in different parts on US. Some maybe as a resulting bullying while others result from psychological factors. For the case with Cruz psychological factor lead to the death of many innocent human due to the



need of revenge by the victims. The school stakeholders include the parent and the authority needs to be vigilant with the school environment and students behaviour if they want to win the war against school shooting. To prevent further shooting in future both students and their guardians either at school or home have to work together in order to be able to share information regarding to their safety.