

Focus and Organization	Evidence and elaboration	Conventions
4	4	2

Bracken

Do you think scientists will be able to predict when volcanoes or earthquakes will strike? Although scientists predicting earthquakes and volcanoes would be helpful, it may not ever be a reality. So what's the deal here? Scientists are gathering more and more data to predict earthquakes, but many scientists have attempted to predict an earthquake strike and none have had success. There are lots of reasons that scientists can or cannot be able to predict when an earthquake will strike or when a volcano will erupt. Let me tell you the reasons why scientists can or cannot predict an earthquake.

To begin, let me tell you some reasons why scientists might actually have success predicting when an earthquake will strike or when a volcano will erupt. According to the article: Can We Predict earthquakes? Scientists are getting closer every day to being able to predict when an earthquake will strike. Scientists can already make a hypothesis where it'll strike. Example, scientists at the USGS have predicted that in the next 30 years, San Francisco has a 67% chance of having a major earthquake. This shows how helpful it would be if scientists would be able to predict when an

The introduction is thoughtful and asks prevalent questions concerning the prompt. The student also displays a very clear main idea that sets the tone for the rest of the paper.

Effective transition and organization of ideas.

Effective use of evidence to analyze and synthesize data

earthquake or a volcano will strike us. It could save countless lives. If scientists actually do, it could be one of the most spectacular discoveries in history. Scientists are getting lots of data on how to predict natural disasters. The author of the article: can we predict earthquakes states, a discovery occurred at the University Duisburg-Essen in Germany. They suggest that red wood ants can sense when an earthquake with a magnitude greater than 2.0 will happen. Scientists at the university Duisburg-Essen followed ants from 2009 to 2012. They concluded that when an earthquake is about to happen, the red wood ants change behavior. The study believes they can sense a change in gas emissions or detect change in the electromagnetic field. Volcanologists are becoming more confident than ever before on solving when volcanoes will erupt. They can detect movement in the rocks that make up the volcano. Also, volcanologists measure gasses coming out of a volcano. Last, they study animals behavior. As you can see, scientists are making progress on when a natural disaster will strike.

Now, let me tell you some reasons why scientists might not be able to predict when a natural disaster will occur. First, it is very complex for scientists to find ways to predict when a natural disaster will occur. They

Although this paragraph could be broken up, the student shows command of their main idea and how the information correlates to it. Also, the student shows command of conventions throughout.

Bracken

Study the movement of the tectonic plates, but these interactions are too confusing. They can tell when an earthquake is about to happen by vibrations. Finding out when an earthquake will happen ahead of time may be impossible. They can have a good hypothesis of when a volcano will erupt on how away, but the longer away it is, the less sure they are. To wrap up this paragraph, predicting when an earthquake will happen may be impossible.

In conclusion, scientists are getting closer on figuring out how to predict natural disasters, but none are having success. They can guess when an earthquake is about to happen by vibrations, but that doesn't give people enough time to escape. Also, the simplest way scientists can figure out when earthquakes will strike is to complex. This suggests that you find more reasons why scientists can or cannot predict earthquakes. Maybe you will be the amazing scientist who figures out how to predict earthquakes.

Student effectively restates main idea and uses more information to shore up concluding thoughts.

This student showed through the duration of the essay that he understands the prompt and is able to find a main idea and keep the focus on it throughout the paper. He understands the information and effectively uses it to integrate new ideas and knowledge to the existing knowledge from the texts.

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Kristina

Have you ever been in an earthquake or near a volcano? They're scary, right? But what if scientists were able to predict them? That would be very helpful and it would keep people safe. In some ways, scientists are very helpful in the way they can predict earthquakes and volcanoes. In other ways, they aren't.

First of all, you need to know what earthquakes and volcanoes are. They are both very destructive. In the article, "Can We Predict Earthquakes?" It stated, "The earthquake triggered a tsunami which caused huge devastation on the northeast coast of Japan." Not only do earthquakes cause destruction themselves, they can have many after affects, too. Additionally, the text stated that, "Animals often seem to be able to 'detect' when an eruption is coming. They become agitated and worried." Volcanoes even worry animals! That's like the evil troll in a fairy tale scaring adults! Both volcanoes and earthquakes need to be predicted well so that we can feel safe and calm in our day to day

Introduction is clear and states a problem based off of the text.

Student effectively uses the texts to analyze and synthesize the information effectively

lives.

I imagine scientists telling people to evacuate a city near a volcano, and then three days later it erupted. Wouldn't that be amazing? Because scientists are getting better at predicting earthquakes and volcanoes, people can be safer than before. The article, "Can we predict Earthquakes said, " They have a pretty good idea where an earthquake is going to hit" They also can have a moderately correct idea when it will strike. It's the same with volcanoes. In the article, "Can we predict when a volcano is going to erupt?" says " They are growing more and more confident at predicting when earthquakes are going to erupt in short-term." That gives people a longer time to evacuate the area. That's like you being able to tell if your bike is going to crash and jumping off a minute early. Scientists are very helpful in predicting volcanoes and earthquakes.

On the other hand, sometimes scientists aren't very accurate and helpful in their predictions. What if they told you that a

Student effectively transitions even without using traditional transition queues

Effective use of text throughout to make new meaning and summarize information presented

Kristina

volcano was going to erupt and you were going to evacuate, but it erupted right as you were heading out the door? That would be like telling a hotdog you're about to eat it and then taking a bite. Pointless, right? In the text it states, "Working out if a volcano will erupt in future years is still impossible." Scientists can only tell us when disaster will strike about a day before it does! In addition to that, The article, "Can we predict earthquakes?" says "Vibrations can be detected just before an earthquake occurs, but this doesn't give people enough time to escape." If their predictions are given right before an earthquake occurs, they might not predict them at all. When my mom was growing up a small earthquake hit her town. They had no idea that it was going to happen. My mom said it scared the living daylights out of her. I imagine doing your home work when suddenly your house starts to vibrate. Because scientists aren't very accurate in predicting volcanoes and earthquakes yet, some people near volcanoes and fault lines, where earthquakes

Effective use of text throughout to make new meaning and summarize information presented. Student uses several citations throughout to drive main ideas from the text.

Personal connection to the text shows evidence of background knowledge as well as the ability to use it for synthesizing information. Also, student introduces some counterclaims, although not fully developed.

usually happen, still are in danger.

All in all, scientists are getting closer to knowing when earthquakes and volcanoes will strike. When scientists are able to predict these natural disasters, we all will be much safer and feel calmer.

In future years, maybe you will be the one who discovers the solution to our shrinking dilemma.

Student gives concise conclusion that reiterates introduction.

This sample shows that the student has command of conventions and can use information to analyze and make new meaning with a text. Each paragraph was clear and concise and follows the framework of the introduction throughout.

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3	3	2

Tyson

Have you ever wondered if we can detect earthquakes? What about predicting volcanoes? They are very hard to predict. Some scientists can and some can't. Some will find out and some won't. Some scientists know why they can't, while some have no clue.

The introduction shows the central idea of the paper that will be discussed throughout. This serves as a preview for the rest of the paper.

Some scientist can find out and others can't. Some of the scientists are as blind as a bat in this situation. The ones that can tell is because of insects and animals. The article states that, "Ants can sense earthquakes and volcanoes." Their behavior changes and won't go back until two ours after the quake . Also, the text states that "animals will become agitated or worried if a volcanoes is going to erupt." Consequently, some scientists can predict when a earthquake or a volcano will happen. On the other hand, scientists have tried other ways, but none of them have worked. Although they have a pretty good idea of where it is going to hit, they still don't know when it will hit. The article states that "although the probability of a future earthquake can be calculated, it would be better to know when it will happen, so that scientists can help keep people safe. In conclusion, some scientists can predict earthquakes and volcanoes while some can't.

Student uses direct quotes to begin shaping evidence for the main idea.

Also, student uses strong transitions both in and out of paragraphs.

Why can some scientists know, and others not. Volcanologists (scientists that study volcanoes) can use monitors to detect movement in the rocks that make up the volcano and in the earths crust. In the article it says "they also measure gases that come out of the volcanic mountains and even the angle of the slopes." Now we have technology that helps scientists. The scientists would have a pretty good idea if an eruption was going to happen in an hour But even less sure in one week. Even less sure in one month. But they can still tell if it will happen. On the other hand, the text states that " the reason some scientists can't predict them is because the further an eruption is away the harder it is to predict. This is like your eyes, the further away something is, the harder it is to predict what it is. Another reason is that scientists haven't been able to find a signal for earthquakes. There is no obvious sign that an earthquake is coming soon. The text states that "although vibrations can be detected right before an earthquake, it doesn't give enough time for people to leave before the earthquake happens. In conclusion, there are many reasons why some can and some can't, and these are a few.

Student elaborates on evidence in several areas to enhance main idea.

Some scientists will be able to detect earthquakes or volcanoes in the future. But some won't. The text states that " scientists at USGS (United States Geology Society) are working hard to develop methods which will predict earthquakes. Eventually they will develop methods to measure them precisely, consequently, it would save many lives. The article says that "volcanologists are growing more and more confident at predicting when volcanoes will erupt in the short-term." Volcanologists are always trying to come up with new ways to detect eruptions. Some of them are using satellites to understand how and when they may blow. Although some scientists will soon crack the code, some will not. The text states that "scientists will eventually crack the code. But that could take a very, very long time. Also, volcanologists are growing confident but they still may never crack the code. In conclusion, some scientists may crack the code, but some may never crack the code.

Although there is some overlapping repetition, this student shows evidence of being able to analyze and interpret information to make statements and enhance the main idea. Also, the student shows authority of conventions and stays focused throughout the paper.

Focus and Organization	Evidence and elaboration	Conventions
2	2	2

Austin

Do you think earthquakes and volcanoes can be predicted? Volcanoes and earthquakes are the same and different in many ways. They are the same because animals can detect them. They are different because they are caused by different things. Let me tell you more reasons why they are the same and different.

The introduction begins with following the prompt and a central idea that is mostly clear

First, they are very similar disasters. They can both be detected by animals. The animals are also predicted just before they happen. This is important because we are able to predict them but not in time to evaluate people. If we can figure out how to predict these natural disasters that will save millions of lives. We can predict the general month but not the exact time. When they occur. These are only some of the reasons why they are the same.

There is evidence being shared, but no real elaboration being used.

Next, there are many reasons why they are different. Volcanoes can be predicted a day before. And earthquakes can only be predicted 30 minutes to an hour before. Earthquakes use a Richter scale to be measured. But volcanoes use a monitor. Earthquakes occur when

tectonic plates rub together. Volcanoes happen when their magma chambers get to full.

Third, here are some facts about earthquakes. Japan's biggest earthquake ever was measured a 9.0 on the Richter Scale, which then triggered a tsunami. A major earthquake should occur in the next thirty years by San Francisco Bay, California. Scientists are 67% positive it will occur.

Finally, there are many facts about volcanoes let me tell you some of them. If volcanoes will happen a week after they detect them scientists will have a good chance of knowing what will happen. They use monitors to detect how big the explosion of a volcano will be. The behavior of animals will give you a sign of when it will happen.

In conclusion, there are many differences and similarities between volcanoes and earthquakes. One similarity is that we can predict them just before they happen. A difference is that they are

Sharing facts, but no elaboration.

2

Austin

measured in different ways. I challenge you to find out more similarities and differences between these two disasters.

The student displayed the ability to extract information, but not to fully analyze it. The students showed adequate conventions and transitions, but the focus shifted throughout the paper.

Focus and Organization	Evidence and elaboration	Conventions
1	2	1

ELLA

Did you know that scientist could predict natural disasters? Can scientist predict when an earth quack will happen? Can animals predict when an earth quack will happen? Are we able to predict when a volcano erupts ? Or will the animals Predit it ?

Can we predict earthquake ? Perdicting earthquake could save many lives . Acording to the article in 2011 there was a large earthquake in japan . On the richer scale it was a 9.0 . That was proble the worest earthquake japan has ever seen. If we could have had predicted that earth quack we would have saved many lives . Many sinentist have tried lots of ways to predict earth quauks. But none have been Secsesful. Many have close or good ideas but they still can't find when and where the earcuk is ant what time it will sterick. Luckily ,they have not gave up according to the arctical scintist have a predictishon that in about 30 years in San Francisco a mager earth quack and there is about 67 percent . It is good they have a idea of what will happen in 30 years.

Are ants able to predict earthquakes? Ants act differently when and earthquakes are about happen and when they do . There is a new study that is done by the University Dusiburg - Essen in Germany . They think That the red wood ants can sense when a earthquake is about to happen. The ants bulid there colonies on the falt lines . The ants will only react to earthquake that is biger than 2.0 or gerater. When an earthquake is only hours away the ants stop what they are doing and go outside of there homes and make a circal around the mound. So can the ants predict when an earthquake will happen?

Why we can not predict when or where earthquakes will happen. There are no signs there is not even a hint when or wher it will happen. So that means there is no way yet for use to predict when and where it will happen. Some times there are little viberashons but it is to late. Soon there we will Proble a sign just in time.

At some point in the future we will predict when and where and earthquake is. We will keep studying animals and weather changes . Luckily we have the predictshon about in 30 years. So we will contiou ideas invenshoins and sings.

Student begins with questions to develop a central idea, and some of them are answered in the body paragraphs. However, the volcanoes are only mentioned in the introduction.

Students uses information to answer questions, but does not elaborate and synthesize with it

Several convention errors including misspelled words that make it hard for the reader to decipher what is being stated by the student.

Although the student shows that she can use information to answer questions, she does not elaborate on the information to develop a focus throughout the paper. Also, with the several mechanical errors throughout the paper, the student's essay becomes hard to identify the central idea and subsequent information.

Focus and Organization	Evidence and elaboration	Conventions
1	1	2

Skyler

Do you know when an earthquake and volcano will happen? I will compare and contrast. The similarities and differences of earthquakes and volcanoes. They both cause natural disasters'. Earthquakes can be any were. Volcanoes are only were they started. They both can be big and small. Will they be able to predict earthquakes.

Although there is a specific central idea, it doesn't get fully addressed and the ideas become scattered throughout the paper.

To begin, They both cause natural disasters'. When a volcano erupts the lava spreads. When an earthquakes hits it shakes and houses and building's fall down .They both are really big!

Transitions are present, but there is no indication of elaboration of evidence.

Next, They both are very different. Lots of then are different. The volcano can be bigger. Or the earthquake can be bigger depends what it is .Sometimes one can cause more than the other one.

Choppy sentences throughout, but for the most part they are complete. While there are errors present, there aren't enough to distract the readers from the meaning of the writer.

As you can see there are some similarities and differences of volcanoes and earthquakes. They both are natural disasters. They both are very different. It is very fun to study so I think you should too.

This student addressed the prompt, albeit, scantily. There is very little elaboration of any evidence and no indication that the student can follow the central idea into a type of cogent essay.