

Words and Well-Being

Evaluate how literacy can shape daily life in Australia.

SS6E12.a "Evaluate how literacy rates affect the standard of living."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three phrases that show how literacy can affect standard of living, and circle two phrases that show why literacy is not the only factor.

Literacy and Daily Life

- ① Literacy means being able to read, write, and use written information. In Australia, most adults have strong literacy skills because schooling is widely available. Literacy is more than reading a novel. A person may need to read a work schedule, compare prices, fill out a health form, or understand a safety sign. These skills can affect standard of living, which includes people's access to income, health care, safe housing, education, and other needs each day.
- ② When workers can understand instructions, calculate pay, and complete training, they may qualify for more kinds of jobs. More job choices can raise income and help families pay for food, transport, and housing. Literacy also helps people read medicine labels, appointment details, and public-health information. This can help them make safer choices and use services. High literacy rates do not guarantee that every person is wealthy, but they can give many people tools to improve daily life over time.
- ③ Australia's high overall literacy rate is one reason its standard of living is generally high, alongside jobs, health systems, infrastructure, and fair access to resources. However, averages can hide differences. Some adults, including people in remote communities or people learning English, may need better access to literacy support. When communities have fewer chances to build literacy, residents may face more barriers to work, services, and information. Raising literacy can reduce these barriers, but other supports also matter.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How can literacy lead to a higher standard of living through work? Explain the chain of effects.

2 Choose two health-related reading tasks from the passage. How can these tasks help a person's standard of living?

3 Why should you be careful about saying that a high literacy rate guarantees a high standard of living for every person?

4 According to the passage, what barriers might people face when their community has fewer chances to build literacy?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write 3 or 4 sentences about two imaginary Australian communities with different access to literacy support. Explain one effect of literacy on daily life and include one other factor that can affect standard of living.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three phrases that show how literacy can affect standard of living, and circle two phrases that show why literacy is not the only factor. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How can literacy lead to a higher standard of living through work? Explain the chain of effects.	Literacy can help workers understand instructions and complete training. This may lead to more job choices, higher income, and more money for needs such as food, transport, and housing.
2	Choose two health-related reading tasks from the passage. How can these tasks help a person's standard of living?	Students may name reading medicine labels, appointment details, health forms, or public-health information. These skills can help people make safer choices and use health services.
3	Why should you be careful about saying that a high literacy rate guarantees a high standard of living for every person?	High literacy does not guarantee that every person is wealthy. Averages can hide differences, and other factors such as jobs, health systems, infrastructure, and fair access to resources also matter.
4	According to the passage, what barriers might people face when their community has fewer chances to build literacy?	They may face more barriers to work, services, and information.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In Bayview, adults can read job ads and training manuals, so more residents can qualify for steady work. In Ridge Camp, lower literacy makes it harder for some adults to read health forms and use services. Literacy is not the only cause of living conditions because reliable transport also helps people reach jobs and clinics.

Accept cause-and-effect explanations that connect literacy with work, income, health information, services, or daily decisions. Students should recognize that literacy can improve standard of living but does not work alone.