

ANNOTATED EXEMPLAR
Expository

The writer establishes topic, audience, and purpose through the use of a question and clarifying statement.

How can people still affect us today even though they lived hundreds of years ago? Many people shape our lives today. One is Galileo Galilei. He lived in a time of great revolutions in science and industry. His individuality and perseverance helped him to create great theories and ideas that we use in our lives today.

The writer engages the reader by establishing a context and using an appropriate tone based on awareness of audience and the purpose.

The writer discriminates between relevant and irrelevant details and facts about Galileo's life.

Galileo Galilei was born on the fifteenth of February in 1564. He was the eldest child of Vinnzo Galilei and Guilia Ammannati. His father was born in Florence and was a music teacher and a good lute player. His parents married in 1563 and settled down in a house close to Pisa. From a young age, Galileo had an eagerness to learn and invent. He enjoyed creating little toys and machines and also was interested in reading and learning. When Galileo was eight years old his father moved the family to his hometown of Florence. Galileo remained in Pisa with Muzio Tedaldi, a relative of his mothers, until he was ten. He then went to Florence and was tutored by Jacopo Borghini. When he was old enough Galileo was sent to the Camaldolese Monastery of Vallombra. The life of a monk, to Galileo, looked like an appealing one. He intended to become one but his father objected. Vincenzo wanted his son to become a doctor.

The writer formulates and maintains a controlling idea, making the topic and purpose clear to the reader.

His father had Galileo move back with Muzio Tedaldi in 1581 when Galileo was seventeen. He enrolled in the University of Pisa working for his medical degree. Galileo never wanted to be a medical doctor. He took courses in mathematics and philosophy, his real interests. Galileo returned to his home in Florence in the summer of 1583, inviting a teacher of his to accompany him. This teacher tried to convince Galileo's parents to allow him to study mathematics. Reluctantly, his father gave in. Galileo began to teach mathematics after finishing his degree. Galileo's popularity grew. His ideas were revolutionary.

The writer varies sentence patterns to establish emphasis and control pace.

The writer organizes ideas into a well-developed paragraph using claim, evidence, and interpretation.

Galileo's work contributed to physics. Physics is the science of moving objects. One day when Galileo was nineteen he was in the church of Pisa and noticed a lamp swaying while suspended on the ceiling. Its movement was similar to that of a pendulum. A pendulum is basically a swinging weight. He counted the amount of time it took for the weight to swing. He concluded that the time it took for a pendulum to swing was the same each time regardless of how far it swung. He also did experiments concerning falling objects. The Greek philosopher Aristotle had said that the heavier an object was the faster it would fall. Galileo tested this idea, but it took him roughly twenty years to come up with the correct conclusion. The objects in fact land at the same time. The story that Galileo dropped weights from the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa is only partially incorrect. A man by the name of Simon Stevin actually performed the experiment several years before the work of Galileo. Galileo discovered and refined his ideas, which influenced the work of Isaac Newton.

The writer's choice of organizational structure (thesis/support) is appropriate for the topic.

Galileo's rise to stardom and overall downfall was in astronomy. In 1601 Galileo heard of a Dutch invention called the telescope. It was initially meant for seeing distant objects on sea but Galileo saw much more use for the creation. He spent a good deal of time making high quality lenses for his own telescope. Finally he pointed the telescope into the sky. What he saw changed the world. He looked at the moon. He saw the moon phases better than anyone had done before and discovered it has its own mountains. Galileo turned his telescope to the sun and realized it had black dots on it, sun spots. When he looked to Jupiter he found it had four moons revolving around it. Saturn, he found, had two enormous ovals on each side. This is all Galileo could see of the magnificent planet's rings. The Milky Way, he concluded after his studies of it, wasn't a milky white cloud in the heavens but millions and billions of stars. Galileo made a very important discovery though. He discovered the planet Venus had phases similar to those of Luna (the moon). He concluded that the light

The writer incorporates carefully chosen examples, facts, reasons, definitions, and anecdotes to support controlling ideas.

was that of the sun being reflected and that since every day the portion of light changed the planets must move. This caused Galileo to support the Copernican theory. The Copernican theory was developed by Nicolas Copernicus. Copernicus believed that all the planets revolved around the sun and the moon revolved around the Earth. He disagreed with the Ptolemaic theory that the earth was the center of the universe. Copernicus wrote a book called *On the Revolutions of the Heavenly Bodies*. Over seventy years after the book was published Galileo had proof that its content was accurate. The Copernican theory wasn't appreciated much. Most people believed in Ptolemy's theory and the most current theory was Tycho Brahe's theory. Tycho said that all of the planets, except Earth, went around the sun but the sun and the moon went around the Earth. The Roman Catholic Church was very much against the Copernican theory; they believed in Ptolemy's theory. They ordered Galileo to stop spreading his ideas. Galileo wouldn't. He knew his ideas were correct. In 1633 he was tried by the Roman inquisition for going against the church's beliefs. He eventually said he was wrong to think the way he did but also said that the Earth does move. He was put under house arrest for life. He died in 1642.

The writer does not employ direct quotations from various sources to enhance meaning.

The writer varies sentence pattern to establish emphasis and control pacing.

It wasn't until 1992 that the church declared that Galileo wasn't wrong. What a terrible ending for such a great man. He made so many discoveries but the world back then didn't seem to be ready for them. Today his discoveries are part of our daily lives. People know that all the planets go around the sun and they know two objects do land on the ground at the same time. He challenged what everyone thought. If you never challenge something the truth will never be found. Galileo knew this and developed ideas the make up the backbone of physics, astronomy, and life.

The writer conveys an individual perspective or insight into the topic.

In the conclusion, the writer attempts synthesis by returning to the opening question and noting the impact of Galileo's work on our lives today.

Throughout this piece, the writer demonstrates control over the conventions of standard English.

Bibliography

The writer conducts research accessing technological and printed resources. The writer employs correct bibliographic format to cite sources of information.

Cooper, Kenneth S. Eastern Hemisphere. Morristown, NJ: Silver Burdett Ginn Inc., 1995

McCollum, Sean. "Galileo Eyes on the Sky." *Junior Scholastic* 9 Feb. 1996:20-21.

Galileo. Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia. 1999

"Galileo Galilei." 18 May 2003

<<http://www-gap.dcs.dcs.st-and.ac.uk/~history/Mathematics/Galileo.html>

Areas for Instructional Emphasis: The report is well organized and informative while revealing the writer's opinion of Galileo and his work. Direct quotes from sources would strengthen the evidence and enhance meaning. Transitional devices, especially between paragraphs, would help to connect ideas. On a six-point rubric, this piece rates level 5.