

This essay deals with an important question in the visual arts—the relationship between content and form. At first glance this seems like a huge question, but by focusing on one Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer’s particular body of work, the student has been able to present a well-focused and well-reasoned argument. The work of artists such as Goya and Moore is introduced as a source of useful comparison, but the essay never loses focus.

The title page indicates that this essay has been carefully planned. Topic, research question, and approach are clearly stated. The abstract, appropriately written in the past tense, is similarly clear and includes each of the three required aspects: research question, method, and conclusion.

This essay is not a biography. We are told just enough about Don Bartletti to provide some context for his work; the research question remains in sharp focus. Although the essay depends heavily on an excellent interview, there is much meaningful discussion and extension of information provided by Mr. Bartletti, for example, the final paragraph on page 12 as well as pages 14 and 15. Images have been well-placed in the body of the text, as close as possible to the related discussion

The essay loses marks for criterion I (formal presentation). Although well structured (note, for example, the effective use of subheadings) and clearly written, there are places where relevant literature could be cited. There is evidence that the student has read widely around the topic, however, the list of “Works cited” (page 24) is a misnomer as most of these references have not actually been cited. In addition the source of each image needs to be identified.