

# UNDERGRADUATE WRITING PROGRAM

PEDAGOGICAL RESOURCES FOR THE UWP COMMUNITY



## WHAT TYPES OF EXHIBITS CAN A STUDENT USE FOR THE CONVERSATION ESSAY?

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In *The Morningside Review* archives, you'll find conversation essays on everything from St. Mark's Place to drag performance to not-so-sexy billboards. When it comes time to choose an exhibit for your own essay, you might want to take a look at how different essays close read different kinds of exhibits. If you are looking for a model that uses an exhibit more like your own or are still figuring out what kind of exhibit you can use, this can help you see the many options out there and could give you some new ideas!

Below, you'll find a hyperlinked list of most of the conversation essays in *TMR* labeling what kind of exhibit they use.

A few questions you might consider (or write about!):

-How is analyzing a visual text (such as a photograph or work of art) different from analyzing a written text (like an essay)? What does evidence from such texts look like and what work does the writer need to do to present that evidence to a reader?

-What kind of additional background sources do these writers provide? Are they from critics? Cite-able encyclopedias (such as Gayle Virtual Reference)? Newspaper articles? And where might you find these sources?

-How do different kinds of exhibits (including different genres of written texts) require different work to put them into conversation? How do they require the same work?

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### **A Speech:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/fighting-indifference-looking-at-world-response-to-the-holocaust-with-elie-wiesel/> (speech)

### **A course description:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/plagiarism-as-revolution-methodology-as-material-apotheosizing-the-author-under-the-aegis-of-appropriation/> (course description)

### **An academic essay:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/losing-the-accidental-holocaust-remembrance-in-the-third-generation/> (academic essay)

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/nation-less-the-unnaturalness-of-nationalism-as-shown-by-third-culture-kids/>

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/for-the-ultimate-green/> (begins with scene from personal experience but primarily analyzes Owen, a written text)

### **An open letter:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/why-straight-men-should-act-gay/> (a letter that sparked a controversy)

### **Personal Experience**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/on-servitude-and-division-of-labor-in-pakistan-and-america/>

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/acknowledging-otherness-2/> (though you might argue Didion is more her exhibit here than the scene from her own experience)

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/societal-duende/>

**A Photograph:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/let-me-rest-a-little-humankind/>

**A Comic Book Cover:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/geek-mythology-nostalgia-in-four-colors/>

**A Mural:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/good-ole-murals-for-the-sentiments/>

**A Sculpture:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/pure-joy/>

**A Billboard:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/crazy-sexy-salty/>

**A Musical Performance:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/birds-words-jazz-language-and-imitation/>

**A Theatrical Performance:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/the-giddiness-of-the-performance-an-investigation-of-disturbing-delightful-drag/>

**A TV Series:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/brainy-or-busty-both-sexuality-and-intelligence-in-bbcs-sherlock/>

**An Event:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/the-destiny-of-the-missing/> (analyzing “the media’s treatment” of an event)

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/born-a-womyn-lisa-vogels-paradigm-for-transgender-exclusion/> (analyzing the controversy around a specific event)

**A Patent (or other legal decision):**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/patenting-culture-the-cultural-conflict-of-intellectual-property/> (analyzes a specific patent that caused a bigger debate about patenting ideas)

**A Space (architecture, a neighborhood public space...):**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/manhattanville-meet-west-harlem-an-urban-frontier/>

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/in-the-bones-of-giants/> (ST mark’s place, a street)

**A Study:**

<http://morningsidereview.org/essay/justices-illusion/>

*Posted in: Uncategorized*

← *Continuing Orientation’s Conversation about the Essay*

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Glenn Michael Gordon The Morningside Review

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