

## Student Extra Challenge Exemplar: Mohammed's 3.1 Blog Response to Online Article (Final Draft)

Check the essential question(s) you have chosen as the focus for your blog response.

- ☒ What influence do others have on who we become?
- ☐ How important is it to pursue our passions?
- ☐ What drives our need to belong?
- ☒ What does it mean to “live well”?

### Living Well in Spite of Evil

Wherever we turn, we are assaulted by headlines and stories about the evil in the world. In contrast to those dark forces that surround us is the **innate** good of human nature. I believe that although Reena Virk was murdered in such a horrible way, something good can come out of her short life and brutal death: the knowledge that evil exists all around us, and it is the job of every person on the planet to seek it out and do what they can to remove it. **∴** form a lobby group, get the government's attention – do something! When we walk down the street, we can look away **when** approached by poverty and homelessness, or we can do something. We can ignore the assault on our environment, or we can leave less of a carbon footprint. We can stand by and watch bullies mercilessly torment victims, or we can report it and seek justice for the weaker among us. Living well means living right, and if we at least try to make the world a better place, we are an active resistor to evil and not a passive bystander.

Now that we have decided to take a stand, it's time to consider how much of an impact those evildoers will have on us. We are “attacked” **everywhere** we go and look, and in everything we view or read these days. The media, both social and mainstream, comprising television, newspapers, film, books, and the Internet, bombard us with images and slogans that make us want to change our appearance, **buy clothes, get thin, grow stronger**, be smarter-the list goes on and on. What we need to do is determine who or what is going to influence our lives and who we wish to become. Friends have the greatest impact on our lives right now – are we making the right choices? What is fun and games today may lead to problems later, and although a criminal record will not stay with us after we turn 18, what's stopping us from making the same mistakes down the road? Look. Nobody is asking us to be angels every minute. All I am saying is that we need to think about the consequences before we act. Try to do the right thing – **always**.



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Excellent! I really like your precise and effective word choices here.

Areas highlighted in green require revisions.

This is an insightful and considered synthesis of your main idea.

I can really hear your voice here. It adds to the authenticity of your piece.

I believe you have tapped into the mindset of many teenagers and are attempting to do something to change it...be the change you wish to see in the world!