



# The Influence of the Superhero Movie

By: Lori McDonald  
Elementary school teacher; Ed.D. in School Leadership/Administration

Pop Culture  
Grades 6-8



## Introduction

As we all know, when students write about topics that excite them and that they know a lot about, they are more likely to invest the time and effort necessary to create an excellent final product. This writing lesson begins with an engaging activity, brainstorming, and discussion that will culminate in a writing assignment in which students will be excited to participate.

## Learning Objectives

- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1](#); Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1.A](#); Introduce claim(s) and organize the reasons and evidence clearly.
- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1.B](#); Support claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence, using credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1.C](#); Use words, phrases, and clauses to clarify the relationships among claim(s) and reasons.
- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1.D](#); Establish and maintain a formal style.
- [CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.6.1.E](#); Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented.

## Materials Needed

- Copies of [graphic organizer](#) and rubric (below) for each student
- Pictures of superheroes from recent movies

## Procedure

**Warm-up Discussion** – Show students pictures of superheroes from recent movies. Encourage them to discuss who the superheroes are, what they do, and why they are important/special/super etc.

1. Tell students that, while superheroes have been around for a very long time, they have become more popular with the rise of the Marvel/DC movie franchises over the last few years.
2. Have students turn and discuss with a writing partner what the effect of the popularity of superheroes has been on society. Specifically, have them discuss the impact the superhero culture has had on their own lives.

Continued on page 2



# The Influence of the Superhero Movie

By: Lori McDonald  
Elementary school teacher; Ed.D. in School Leadership/Administration

Pop Culture  
Grades 6-8



Continued from page 1

3. Give students independent think-time to work on ideas for their writing assignment on the following topic: Write an opinion piece about whether you think the prevalence of superheroes in our pop culture has a positive or negative impact. Give them the OREO graphic organizer to plan.

## Evaluation

Have students use the rubric below to evaluate their own writing and/or their writing partner's writing. After they have used the rubric to improve their writing, use the same rubric to grade the assignment.

Categories	4	3	2	1
<b>Sentences</b>	8 or more complete sentences included.	6 or 7 complete sentences included.	4 or 5 complete sentences included.	3 or less complete sentences included.
<b>Punctuation</b>	All sentences end with correct punctuation.	Most sentences end with correct punctuation.	Some sentences end with correct punctuation.	Little or no sentences end with correct punctuation.
<b>Capitalization</b>	All sentences begin with a capital letter.	Most sentences begin with a capital letter.	Some sentences begin with a capital letter.	Little or no sentences begin with a capital letter.
<b>Neatness</b>	All words are neat and clearly written.	Most words are clearly written.	Some words are clearly written.	Illegible
<b>Topic</b>	All sentences are on-topic.	Most sentences are on-topic.	Some sentences are on-topic.	Little or no sentences are on-topic.