

Pitfall	Match the ELA Teaching Task with its Most Prevalent Pitfall
<p>1. Wrong use of template (wrong cognitive demand or writing mode; or two parts of template don't match/aren't aligned--this is the mixed up purpose)</p>	<p>Task IE2, Description</p> <p>After reading Robert Frost's "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" and Edgar Allen Poe's "The Bells," write an essay in which you describe which author creates more effective emotional effects using sound devices. Support your discussion with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>8th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>2. Task answerable without the texts</p>	<p>Task A4, Analysis</p> <p>After reading <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> and various informational texts about parenting, write an essay in which you argue what makes a good father. Support your position with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>9th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>3. Grand thematic question</p>	<p>Task IE1, Definition</p> <p>What does it mean to be free? After reading Toni Morrison's <i>Song of Solomon</i>, write an essay in which you define freedom and explain which characters in the novel are or become free. Support your discussion with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>11th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>4. Texts answer the question--no room for multiple responses</p>	<p>Task IE2, Description</p> <p>After reading an excerpt from <i>Three Cups of Tea</i> (Young Reader's Edition), write an essay in which you describe how Greg Mortensen responded to getting lost in the high mountains of Pakistan. Support your discussion with evidence from the text.</p> <p>6th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>

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<p>5. Built in bias</p>	<p>Task A4, Analysis</p> <p>After reading William Golding’s <i>Lord of the Flies</i>, write an argumentative essay in which you argue whether children possess the capacity for extreme violence. Support your position with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>7th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>6. Central to discipline (not based on standards essential to discipline—more based on pop culture, product, etc.)</p>	<p>Task A4, Analysis</p> <p>Do violent video games contribute to youth violence? After reading various articles on the effects of violent video games, write a letter to your parents in which you argue your position on the question. Support your position with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>6th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>7. Content too broad or too narrow/ insignificant— not worthy of the time</p>	<p>Task IE1, Definition</p> <p>After researching both fiction and non-fiction texts about piracy, write a 1,000 word expository essay in which you define piracy and explain multiple perspectives on the morality of piracy. Support your discussion with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>8th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>
<p>8. Problematic text/s (too narrow, too broad, reading level, too many, too few)</p>	<p>Task IE3, Explanation</p> <p>After reading <i>The Great Gatsby</i>, <i>Vanity Fair</i>, and <i>Limbo: Blue-Collar Roots, White-Collar Dreams</i>, write an essay in which you explain how a character succeeds or fails in an effort to move to a higher social class. Support your discussion with evidence from the text/s.</p> <p>11th Grade Literature (ELA)</p>