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Provided to Washoe County School District Middle and High School Students free of charge by the Terry Lee Wells Foundation and the Education Collaborative

With SMARTHINKING, you can

- **Connect With an e-structor** and interact with a live tutor.
- **Submit your Writing** for any class to our Online Writing Lab.
- **Submit a Question** and receive a reply from a tutor.



Follow these steps to get started:

1. Go to www.smarthinking.com.
2. Enter your username and password in the boxes provided, using the convention shown below:

Username: FirstName+LastName+MMDD of your birth date
There are no spaces or punctuation in the usernames
Password: Washoe

Username Examples:

John Smith, born 1/14/92 would have JohnSmith0114 as his username.
Mary O'Brien, born 10/11/93 would have MaryOBrien1011 as her username.
Ana Lopez-Gacia, born 12/14/90 would have AnaLopezGarcia1214 as her username.

Please note that SMARTHINKING tutors are professional educators dedicated to helping students succeed in their studies. Your interactions with them should always be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner. All tutoring sessions are recorded and are subject to review at anytime by school and district personnel.

Technology Requirements

- **OS:** Windows 98 +, Mac OS10 +
- **Browser:** Windows: Netscape 6 +, Internet Explorer 5. 1+, Firefox 1.0.4+
Apple Mac: Safari 1.3+, , Firefox 1.0.4+, Internet Explorer 5.1+
- **Connection:** 28.8K min. / 56K+ preferred
- **Cookies/Javascript** should be enabled.
- **Popup Blockers?** Should be disabled for www.SMARTHINKING.com

Please visit the Customer Support section of the SMARTHINKING website at <http://www.smarthinking.com> for the latest technical specifications for this service.

Troubleshooting Tips:

- Make sure that your browser is set up to allow cookies and pop-up windows
- Make sure that you have Java installed. If you need to install Java, go to <http://www.java.com>, and follow the instructions for the free download.
- Make sure that you have Flash™ version 8.0+ for Windows and Mac OS X; 7.0.19+ for Mac OS 9 installed. If you need to install Flash™, go to <http://www.macromedia.com>, and follow the instructions.

Help when you need it in.....

Mathematics

Hi I have a question. Can you help me?
 Hello Tammy! welcome back - Jim here, so what will be the question today

Between what two whole numbers is the value of the radical expression $\sqrt{23}$ What do they mean by between two whole numbers?

The set of whole numbers is: {0,1,2,3,4,5,...} or you could say the non-negative integers (or non-negative integers) so we want to find two whole numbers, w_1 & w_2 , so that $w_1 < \sqrt{23} < w_2$ ok, i understand integers my teacher talked about that last week.

Let's look at a similar example... ok great

let me draw a number line

Here, we note that $\sqrt{4} = 2$ etc...

Can you point to where $\sqrt{11}$ would lie on this number line?
 would it go between the 9 and 16?

That's close Tammy, but to clarify, our number line doesn't contain, 9 and 16, it contains, 3 & 4, which are the positive square roots of 9 & 16 respectively.

yeah, that's what I was trying to say :-)) Ok, I'll draw an arrow to locate $\sqrt{11}$

ok Tammy, so let's look back at your original question.
 $\sqrt{23}$ what is a perfect square, that is just a little larger than 23?

hmmm thinking, 25 good job

and how about a perfect square that is smaller than 23? $16 = 4^2$

so I would say $4 < \sqrt{23} < 5$ yes, that is correct Tammy.

Do you understand how to approach this problem now?

yeah - it's not too bad after all - thanks Jim, bye Bye for now.

Chemistry

Is this equation balanced? $C_2H_5OH(l) + O_2(g) \rightarrow CO_2(g) + H_2O(g)$

Hi Bryan... Let me ask you what do you need for a balanced equation?

Hi Bob... I think you can do this by trial and error... or inspection?

Well, let's start by counting the number of carbons on the left side (reactants) - how many are there?

2 in the first and 5 in the - ok... just 2 carbon atoms

??? ok, good. How many on the right? One?

So this is unbalanced... what do you have to multiply the CO_2 by to balance the carbon atoms?

$C_2H_5OH(l) + O_2(g) \rightarrow 2CO_2(g) + H_2O(g)$ Mult by 2

Good, now how many Hydrogen atoms on the left (reactants)? 5

Nope, don't forget the Hydrogen in OH (l) I see so it is 6 H atoms

good... How many H's on the right? Only 2

So you would? Multiply $H_2O(g)$ by 3... excellent

$C_2H_5OH(l) + O_2(g) \rightarrow 2CO_2(g) + 3H_2O(g)$

Now the oxygen atoms on the right? 3?? remember you have 2 $CO_2(g) + 3H_2O(g)$ so that is $4 + 3 = 7$ Oxygen atoms on the right.

Correct, so how many do you need on the left? I add atoms to both sides?

Right - we start with the reactants (left) because $C_2H_5OH(l)$ is the most complicated molecule. Since the O_2 molecule has only oxygen (and no other elements) we can leave it till last.

Okay, so I would need 3 $O_2(g)$ on the left plus the O from OH (l) to give me 7

$C_2H_5OH(l) + 3O_2(g) \rightarrow 2CO_2(g) + 3H_2O(g)$

Right...very good.

Wow - that is not too bad.

Any more questions Bryan? Nope Ok, come again

Bye for now

Writing

SMARTHINKING's E-structor Response Form

Strengths of the essay: Hello, Kate. Welcome back to Smarthinking. This is Tom, and I'm glad to work with you on another draft of this essay. You're making some great improvements here, particularly in the development of your third paragraph and in the elimination of some of the comma splices that were a problem in your first draft. I encourage you to keep up the good work! I've included my comments here and in your essay. Be sure to look there, too.

Kate has requested that you respond to Content Development: Kate, I think your main goal during revision will be to decide just exactly what critical point you want to make about Butler's writing. I see that you want to focus on the death rituals of Vietnam and Butler's character Dao; however, I don't see what point you want to make about these topics. Try to rework your thesis statement so that it answers the following questions: What do I want to prove or show to my readers about the death ritual in Butler's story? What opinion do I have about Butler's use of the death ritual in the story? Then, make sure your body paragraphs address and develop these questions, using both examples from the text and your discussion and analysis of these examples. You will find more specific content development suggestions embedded in your essay.

Kate has requested that you respond to Organization: Currently, some of your paragraphs summarize the story, while other paragraphs give us information about Vietnamese tradition. We can't be sure what the relationship is between these two topics. By rewriting your thesis statement, you will give your essay a more clear-cut organizational structure. The first portion of your essay's body may examine the use of the death ritual in Vietnamese tradition; the next part of your essay's body may look at Butler's use of the ritual in his story; and the final portion of your essay's body may include information about your opinion of Butler's use of the death ritual in the story.

Grammar and Mechanics: Kate, as I mentioned above, you've done a good job of eliminating comma splices, but I see you're still having some trouble with commas. I wanted to remind you to check for comma errors by reading your writing aloud. Commas sound like pauses, as you can tell from reading this sentence aloud. If you read the following sentence aloud, can you hear which comma might be unnecessary?

In "A Good Scent from a Strange Mountain," Robert Olen Butler, tells the story of an old Vietnamese gentleman as he is departing this life and entering the next.

As you probably can hear, the comma after Butler sounds unnatural. Note: sometimes it is difficult to "hear" all of these pauses, so it is important to know the rules. For more information about comma usage, take a look at the section on commas in our online handbook: http://www.smarthinking.com/static/Document_Library/docs/writeman/5_09.cfm.

Summary of Next Steps: As you work on your next draft,

- Determine a clear thesis statement that tells us exactly what point you want to make about these topics. Make sure that each body paragraph is working to support your thesis.
- Use your thesis as a "road map" for the organization of your essay.
- Read aloud to listen for missing or extra commas.
- Feel free to submit your next draft to us if you'd like more help!

For more information about writing, grammar, and usage, visit the **SMARTHINKING Writer's Handbook** or the **SMARTHINKING ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) Writer's Handbook**. Thank you for visiting SMARTHINKING. I enjoyed working with you again today, Kate. Please stop back again soon! Tom

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*Bilingual Math • Physics • Biology
 Intro Human A&P • Organic Chemistry
 Economics • Accounting • Intro to Finance
 Statistics • and Spanish*