

Name: John

W2 Sample

**Essay Prompt:**

Plants are an important part of our daily life. We rely on plants for our survival. Plants are studied for ways we can use them to make our lives better. Many people are interested in the way plants live, what their plant systems do, and how they can adapt to changing environments.

**Directions for Writing**

Think about the plants that you have studied or observed. Choose only one plant for your essay topic. Explain this plant's systems and their functions. Describe ways the plant can be used and how it might adapt to a change in its environment. Write a one-page essay answer that can be shared with your class.

**General Comments:** Good job, John! This is a very informative essay and met most of the requirements given in the essay prompt. I would have liked to see more attention paid to how the oak tree might adapt to changes in its environment, however. Another opportunity for improvement would be to combine several short, declarative sentences into a compound sentence that is more interesting to the reader. For instance, instead of writing, "If the time is right, the acorn will germinate. It will become a sapling.", you may choose to combine the two sentences into, "If the the time is right, the acorn will germinate and become a sapling." Overall, you did an excellent job on this essay. Nice work!

**Score:** 5 out of 6

## Essay Body

Have you ever seen an oak tree? Do you know they can live hundreds of years? Do you know how their systems work? Do you know how to use this plant? Can this plant adapt to any environment?

An oak tree can live many years. It starts as an acorn. **If the time is right, the acorn will germinate. It will become a sapling.** Gradually, it will grow into an adult oak tree. Unless the tree dies of disease or somebody **cut** it down, it will continue to grow.

**Some systems of the oak tree are the roots and the leaves. The roots bring in water and nutrients. They are usually deep in the ground. This is to prevent the tree from blowing away. The leaves help taking the nutrients and break it into energy. The tree uses the energy to make food.**

**The oak tree is very useful. It can be cut into sturdy beams or made for long lasting furniture. The logs are used for fire woods. The leaves take in carbon dioxide and changing it to oxygen. What a helpful tree for human beings!**

## Suggested Changes

cuts

Systems of the oak tree include the roots and the leaves. The roots bring in water and nutrients, and are usually deep in the ground. This is to prevent the tree from blowing away. The leaves help by converting the nutrients and the rays of the sun into energy. The tree uses the energy to make food.

The oak tree is very useful. It can be cut into sturdy beams or made into long lasting furniture. The logs may also be used for firewood. The leaves take in carbon dioxide and convert it into oxygen. What a helpful tree for human beings!

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Unfortunately, oak tree can only live in dry  
(or little water), good, soft, warm and mineral rich  
soil.

Unfortunately, the oak tree can only live in certain areas  
since it requires its soil to be dry, warm, and relatively rich  
in minerals.