**Revision Workshop Sample: Teacher Version**

**How Plastic Surgery Helps**

Nowadays, with the great progress of medical technology and the development of the living standard, people, especially women, care more and more about their facial beauty and the medical derivatives such as cosmetics and even plastic surgery. Many scholars argue that plastic surgeries are unnatural and unhealthy, and some conservatives are doing their best to prevent women from having plastic surgeries. However, although it may somehow hurt people’s health, plastic surgery actually has its own great benefits and helps in building both inner and outer beauty because people with imperfections could be greatly helped if it is well used and regain confidence, and people without imperfections have the right to change their own appearance.

Facial beauty for people, especially women, is a changeless goal throughout history and plastic surgeries are good way I believe to gain beauty. In the past, in European countries, women used the lead powder, which is poisoning, to make their skin more “white” and nowadays, a huge amount of internet stars sprung up such as Chiara Ferragni, who push out videos or pictures how to choose make-up and clothes. Also, with the development of medical technology, there exist more and more tools to change our own appearance. There are some bold women who had plastic surgeries in order to obtain eternal beauty. The data from the hospital listed that from 1989 to 2000, 681,000 plastic surgeries have been performed. However, in 2001, 8.5 million procedures were performed (Bordo). Bordo in her article quoted the opinion of Dr. Randal Haworth in a Vogue interview, which said “I don't have a problem with women who already look good who want to look perfect.”(Bordo) In Bordo’s article, she stands opposite to Dr. Haworth’s opinion, which she blamed the word “perfect” and believed that people nowadays tend to interpret beauty in a wrong way. The high demands of the plastic surgery is based on the social stereotypes of body image that given to women. However, what I think is that Haworth is the one who really focuses on the truth and beauty are just defined as inner and apparent beauty. Actually, whether or not to have the plastic surgery is a purely personal choices and no one have to comment on people who took plastic surgeries. Although someone may argue that plastic surgeries are unnatural and unhealthy, we should make the concession here that plastic surgeries may hurt our health, but it is much better that using too much cosmetics to cover up our imperfections because the research done by Lady Davis Carmel Hospital shows that the continuously using of the eye cosmetics is a source of lead poisoning and other disease such as cancer. However, the surgery is only a temporarily physical damage. Thus, people who did plastic surgeries should not be blamed or criticized because they may even saving themselves from the poisoning make-up. (Nir A, 4)

Also, if the plastic surgery could continue to mature, it could also be used to cure many people from imperfections instead of only serves as a “beauty therapy”. Thus, it means that plastic surgery could also be a way to help people gain inner beauty, like confidence. In the essay of Lucy Grealy, she told about her heartbreaking experience after her jaw operation, her inner self-abasement because of her difference and mentioned her countless and “long-term plastic surgery”(Grealy) which even not done after the article was end. There is an indisputable fact behind the story that if the technology of the plastic surgery is mature enough, more and more people could be saved from the imperfections, Grealy would not suffer that much pain, regain the confidence and live a normal life. We should make an explanation that the plastic surgery not only includes the nose re-shaping or eyelid reduction, but also contains scar-removing and even jaw orthodontics. On the other hand, while Bordo is talking about how plastic surgery is unethical and “express her horror openly” (Bordo), Grealy may refute back and say that plastic surgery is her only hope to “fix her face” and “be whole, loved, content”(Grealy). Also, we should make concession here that Grealy in her essay also mentioned about her complex feeling after receiving the plastic surgery, because she thinks that although now she gets a “new” face, she is not sure about her identity. However, if she was given a chance, I believe she would still choose to take plastic surgeries because it is such a helpful way to gain confidence and not be treated differently. I believe that if people with imperfection have the chance to choose their own appearance, they will all choose a normal face and plastic surgery could definitely help them to realize that dream. If people are blamed by having plastic surgery and caused that less people receive the surgery, the technology may develop much slowly and people who are suffering “nasty comments” like Grealy may continue to live an abnormal life.

All in all, we should not blame the plastic surgery and deny its profits. As a new type of beauty health care, it may continue to mature and become a much more beneficial way than cosmetics does if we use it appropriately. Also, people born with the rights to change their own appearance and no one could take that.

Works Cited

Bordo, Susan. “The Empire of Images in Our World of Bodies.” *The Chronicle Review* 50.17 (2003): 1-7. Web. 18 Feb. 2013.

Grealy, Lucy. “Mirrors.” *Fields of Reading*. Ed. Nancy Comley and David Hamilton and Carl Klaus and Robert Scholes and Nancy Sommers and Jason Tougaw. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2010. 33-44. Print

[Nir A](http://europepmc.org/search?page=1&query=AUTH:%22Nir+A%22&restrict=All+results) , [Tamir A](http://europepmc.org/search?page=1&query=AUTH:%22Tamir+A%22&restrict=All+results) , [Zelnik N](http://europepmc.org/search?page=1&query=AUTH:%22Zelnik+N%22&restrict=All+results) , [Iancu TC](http://europepmc.org/search?page=1&query=AUTH:%22Iancu+TC%22&restrict=All+results). “Is eye cosmetic a source of lead poisoning?” *Department of Pediatrics, Lady Davis Carmel Hospital, Haifa, Israel.*

Israel Journal of Medical Sciences [1992, 28(7):417-421]

This is quite a strong first draft of the SA4! I particularly like the way that you use Grealy’s situation to respond as a sort of counter to Bordo’s position, although you do still need to be careful about acknowledging Grealy’s mixed feelings towards plastic surgery.

If you decide to revise, here are my key suggestions:

1. Don’t forget to support your key claims: If you think that everyone should have the right to plastic surgery, please explain why this should be considered a right.
2. Organization: Continue to work on having topic sentences that accurately summarize the key idea of each paragraph. Try to avoid having information in a paragraph that does not clearly support or connect to the topic sentence of that paragraph. You do this nicely sometimes, but a few paragraphs are less strong in this area.
3. Avoid making “absolute” claims that assume more than can be proven. It is usually stronger to say things like “often” or “most” than “always” or “everyone.”

Keep up the hard work and let me know if you have any questions!  
TJ