

Name 1

Name

Professor Emerson

ENG 110 J

27 February 2018

Title??

Commented [1]: Yes, please! :)

Is art a waste of time? It truly is a simple question. It comes down to what you believe or don't believe in. Rhys Southan believes it is not only useful, but it would be unlivable without before he ventures on his journey. The world of art is so massive but should it really be like this? An Effective Altruism group believes that art is a waste of time and that artists should have a real job that can actually contribute to society. Then you hear of people like Haas and Hahn though, where they changed entire communities for the better just by using their imagination. So, what side of the argument should one take?

Commented [2]: I want to encourage you to revisit Southan's essay, as when he quotes this speech he does so as a way to illustrate his state of mind AS HE enters his time with the EAs. Return to the text and look for evidence that he upholds his conviction AFTER he encounters the EA. This is tricky, but he reflects his struggle -- his shifting opinions--in the narrative that frames the essay.

Commented [3]: You might consider rewording this or finding another way to link the sentences. Flow is key.

Commented [4]: As you introduce these sources and their authors, consider how you would feel as a reader, reading the names for the first time. Imagine that you know nothing about these names. What information would you like to know?

You might think differently, but I believe that art is beautiful and gives joy and happiness to everyone around it. Just imagine for a second, everything about you and your surroundings is some sort of artwork. The buildings around you, the internet you surf daily, even your own clothes are all some form of art. Art is something that is introduced to everyone at such a young age, but at that age, the children don't truly understand the meaning and significance of it. Young children only see art as drawing and painting taught to them by their pre-school and elementary school teachers. Art to them is something to do in their free time or something that is required for their schooling. What they don't know, art can be anything that expresses some sort of meaning or relevance. Art can be an escape for people where they can just get away from everything and express their feelings, beliefs, or whatever is on their mind at that moment in time. What makes

Commented [5]: This statement is accurate, but I'm a little confused by the addition of it in your paper. I don't really see how it supports your paper. Maybe consider cutting or revising to more clearly illustrate your point.

Commented [6]: Nice. I think you hit the nail on the head with this statement.

artwork good is the meaning behind it. Every major artist knows this and conveys something magical by putting their meaning or beliefs in some form of artwork. I truly believe that without art, this society would look completely different than what it looks like today. There would be no designs to anything. This world would be flat out just plain. The true power of art is to give rise to hope, promote change, and bring communities together.

In the short essay, *Is Art a Waste of Time*, Rhys Southan talks about many different views and opinions of being an artist. He starts off by introducing himself as a movie script writer whose focus is on very dark comedies. This tells me right away that Southan is an artists himself. He then introduces the Effective Altruism group, or EA for short. The EA have dedicated their lives to helping people in need all over the world in hopes to cure poverty. The EA believe that there is no room for art in the world and that artists could be doing other things that could actually benefit society. They believe that artists are in a whole other world just “paint[ing] beautiful landscapes in front of them while the rest of the world burns”. The EA wants artists to give up their dream of being an artist for a job with “higher expected returns” so that the person can donate more money or 10% of their earnings to the less fortunate. Southan however, does not feel the same way that the Effective Altruism group does. He believes that “the world would be unlivable without art” and that art does have a positive impact in society. The EA does make Southan feel guilty for being an artist, but he comes to the conclusion that he is not willing to give up on art which he loves and holds dear to his heart for something that will ultimately make him unhappy.

On the other side of the argument, there are these two guys named Haas and Hahn, who have this amazing story about how art can change the perspective of favelas and rough cities. Their journey started when Jeroen Koolhaas won a competition to make a documentary for

**Commented [7]:** I think this is a really interesting moment in your text. Consider building your argument around this thought experiment. Imagine a world without art. What would the world lose? What would the world gain? If you built your argument (and your claim sentences) around this thread of thought you could easily use the sources as EVIDENCE to support, complicate, advance, etc. your argument.

**Commented [8]:** I like this conclusion sentence, it is very powerful!

**Commented [9]:** Good argument. There is a lot of supportive claims you can use for this.

**Commented [10]:** This is a very minor note, but you might consider a different choice of words. "cure" sounds weird in this context. It might just be me, though. Maybe "alleviate?" Doesn't really matter, just thought I'd point it out.

**Commented [11]:** Good explanation of quote.

**Commented [12]:** This is true. Notice that his reasoning is motivated by self--by his desire for his own happiness. Just something to note.

**Commented [13]:** Two guys? Need better word choice here. Needs to be more formal.

**Commented [14]:** At this point, I want to remind you to push beyond the classic "5 paragraph" pattern of summary, summary, opinion. You want to reorganize your essay around your own ideas. Engage with the ideas that the texts present. Imagine that you are sitting at a table with them. You would not enter the conversation by simply reiterating what everyone said. You would take what they said and respond, no?

MTV. The documentary was originally on Brazilian hip-hop music in the favelas of Rio but during their time in Brazil, the word image was always lingering around the slums. Haas and Hahn saw this and wanted a change to happen so they put a plan in place. The plan was to create a massive mural that would cover many buildings and would be able to be seen from far distances. This experience brought together the whole community in a way like no other. Haas and Hahn completely changed the perspective of favelas and basically forced people to think of favelas differently by the actions of two people. Now that is truly unbelievable. Haas and Hahn quickly got famous and started getting requests from all over the world. They then took a gig in North Philly which is one of the poorest neighborhoods in the United States. They worked with the whole community to get this project done and it took about two full years to transform this neighborhood. Koolhaas and Urhahn even went a step further this time and trained kids from the streets to paint and hired them so they could help out with this amazing project while getting paid for it. Not only did these guys change the community, but they changed these kids lives by giving them purpose and a way to get away from the violence. Even now after the project has been over with, Koolhaas and Urhahn still stay in contact with some of the people from Philly which is proof of how these two guys really changed the community. They couldn't believe how much of an impact they could possibly have on one neighborhood by using nothing but paint and a few brushes.

Personally, I believe in the power of art. I believe in the impact that art can hold over billions of people. Some people, like the Effective Altruism group might not agree with me, but that's ok because this is my belief, and my belief only and nobody can make me feel differently. There is a reason why millions of people travel the world to other countries. Some might be traveling for the amazing beaches, but many travel to places like Europe which is abundantly

**Commented [15]:** Combine these two sentences as the first sentence seems just to be extra wording.

**Commented [16]:** If you want to exclaim how you think it is unbelievable maybe expand the sentence, write "I think that is truly unbelievable because..." and why.

**Commented [17]:** Seems very informal

**Commented [18]:** A better word to use here would be "individuals".

**Commented [19]:** Replace they with the names of the artists.

**Commented [20]:** A great example of a world "without art" gaining art.

**Commented [21]:** This is a large paragraph. I think it could be shortened and broken down into smaller separate paragraphs.

**Commented [22]:** I like how you include your opinion, just make sure it connects back to your thesis!

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rich with artwork. For example, the Vatican City which holds the prestigious Sistine Chapel. The Sistine Chapel is an amazing tourist attraction which people from all over the world go to see, but why? If art is useless, then why would so many people travel just to see this one building? What would be the point in wasting your own money to go if art didn't have any value in ones everyday life? The same goes for Paris and many other places all around the world. In this society today, art is valued tremendously because it holds the history of our homes, promotes change in our society, and gives hope and pride to civilians every single day.

Commented [23]: This is a powerful world-to-text connection. Could you use this in direct conversation with one of the texts?

Commented [24]: I like these questions however, I think you should explain them a little bit more.

Commented [25]: This is accurate, but I feel you may benefit from digging deeper. Yes, alot of people feel a connection to this art, but why? Answering the why question might add some extra depth and flavor to your paragraph.

Commented [26]: Good way to wrap things up