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#### Reading Response Paper 4

Doug Enders' article, "Crossing the Divide: A Survey of the High School Activities That Best Prepared Students to Write in College," provides insights into the importance of high school extracurricular activities in preparing students for college writing challenges. The article suggests that high school students who participate in extracurricular activities, particularly those that involve writing, are better prepared for college writing than those who do not.

Enders emphasizes that participating in activities like high school publications, debate, multiple years of English, and honors or advanced placement English classes significantly impacts college writing success. Students who participate in these activities tend to have greater self-confidence in their writing abilities, leading to better performance in college writing assignments.

Moreover, Enders' article underscores the importance of teaching writing skills across all disciplines in high school. Writing abilities learned in one subject can be transferred to another, making students better prepared for college writing. For instance, history classes require students to write analytical essays that utilize primary and secondary sources. These same skills can be used in college classes that require similar assignments.

The conclusions of other studies are consistent with Enders' research. Ritter and Matsuda's study on the relationship between advanced composition courses and college writing success found that high school students who completed advanced composition courses outperformed those who did not in college writing courses (Ritter and Matsuda, 2009). Similarly, Graham and Perin's research demonstrated that writing instruction across the curriculum in high school improved students' writing skills and prepared them for college writing assignments (Graham and Perin, 2007).

In summary, Enders' article highlights the crucial role that high school extracurricular activities play in preparing students for college writing challenges. The article underscores the importance of teaching writing skills across all disciplines in high school, which helps students develop transferable writing abilities. As a college student, I strongly recommend this article to anyone seeking to improve their writing abilities and succeed in writing projects.

Citations:

- Enders, Doug. "Crossing the Divide: A Survey of the High School Activities That Best Prepared Students to Write in College." *The English Journal*, vol. 99, no. 4, 2010, pp. 58-66. JSTOR, [www.jstor.org/stable/25792009](http://www.jstor.org/stable/25792009).
- Graham, Steve, and Dolores Perin. "Writing Next: Effective Strategies to Improve Writing of Adolescents in Middle and High Schools - A Report to Carnegie Corporation of New York." Alliance for Excellent Education, 2007, [www.all4ed.org/files/WritingNext.pdf](http://www.all4ed.org/files/WritingNext.pdf).
- Ritter, Kelly, and Paul Kei Matsuda. "Writing Programs Worldwide: Profiles of Academic Writing in Many Places." Parlor Press, 2009.