

Performance Task

A real CLA Example

Scenario: You advise Pat Williams, the president of DynaTech, a company that makes precision electronic instruments and navigational equipment. Sally Evans, a member of DynaTech’s sales force, recommended that DynaTech buy a small private plane (a SwiftAir 235) that she and other members of the sales force could use to visit customers. Pat was about to approve the purchase when there was an accident involving a SwiftAir 235.

Questions:

Do the available data tend to support or refute the claim that the type of wing on the SwiftAir 235 leads to more in-flight breakups? What is the basis for your conclusion?

What other factors might have contributed to the accident and should be taken into account?

What is your preliminary recommendation about whether or not DynaTech should buy the plane and what is the basis for this recommendation?

Document Library:

[Newspaper article about the accident](#)

[Federal Accident Report on in-flight breakups in single-engine planes](#)

[Internal Correspondence \(Pat’s e-mail to you & Sally’s e-mail to Pat\)](#)

[Charts relating to SwiftAir’s performance characteristics](#)

[Excerpt from a magazine article comparing a SwiftAir 235 to similar planes](#)

[Pictures and descriptions of SwiftAir Models 180 and 235](#)

An attempt for a Lit class

Problem: The literary concept of romanticism. is usually “taught” by giving a definition and asking for regurgitation on a test. A performance task might look like this.

Situation: You are attending a meeting of polarized citizens who are discussing the creation of a proposed wilderness area.

Questions:

- 1) How might romanticism influence a person’s perception of nature?
- 2) What kind of person would be admired by a person whose world view is romantic?
- 3) What common ground could you find between those with a romantic and those with a scientific world view?

Would this engage students better than defining?
Could we go outside to look for signs of romanticism in our mall landscape?

Class Test Question: Define romanticism.

Document Library:

[A Thomas Moran Painting \(American\)](#)

[A photograph of a romantic style “wilderness” garden complete with rustic hovel and hermit \(English\)](#)

[A romantic description of moonlight by Guy de Maupassant \(French\)](#)

[Wordsworth’s poem celebrating wild daffodils, “Daffodils” \(English\)](#)

[A paragraph from a James Fenimore Cooper novel with Leatherstocking making a perfect shot to kill only one passenger pigeon for his supper, while his fellow townsmen shoot hundreds for sport \(American\)](#)