Sample Essay-Writing Prompts

Writing Situation #1
Families, teachers, and other members of your school community have become increasingly concerned about student safety after school. In response to their concern, a “Concerned Citizens Committee” has been established to consider the effects of enacting a 9:00 p.m. curfew for all youth under 18 years old, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Before the committee votes on whether or not to recommend a 9:00 p.m. curfew policy, they would like to consider all student opinions. Interested students have been asked to write a persuasive letter to the committee, supporting or opposing a 9:00 p.m. curfew for all youth under the age of 18, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. You have decided to write a letter, stating your opinion.

Directions for Writing
Write a persuasive letter to the committee, supporting or opposing a 9:00 p.m. curfew. Your letter should convince the committee that you have carefully considered the effects of enacting this policy. Use facts, examples, and other evidence to support your position.

Writing Situation #2
The principal of your school has established a committee of students, parents, and other members of the school community to explore ways of increasing school spirit and minimizing discipline problems. After much discussion, the committee has suggested that the wearing of school uniforms will have a positive effect on student attitude and behavior.

Before the committee votes on whether or not to enact a school uniform policy, they would like to consider all student opinions. Interested students have been asked to write a persuasive letter to the committee, supporting or opposing a school uniform policy. You have decided to write a letter, stating your opinion on this controversial topic.

Directions for Writing
Write a persuasive letter to the committee, supporting or opposing a school uniform policy. Your letter should convince the committee that you have carefully considered the effects of a school uniform policy. Use facts, examples, and other evidence to support your position.