

Eleventh Grade

School-Wide Writing Assignment

Date: _____

Student's Name: _____ ES's Name: _____

Persuasive Writing Assignment

Pre-Assignment Writing:

- The school website has the directions for administering this assignment. It also has the scoring rubric, persuasive writing instruction, additional practice prompts, and an optional “mock” practice writing assignment to help prepare the student for this assignment. Go to, <http://www.sscs.cc/curriculum.html>, 2010 Writing Assignment, or talk to your ES.

Directions:

- In this writing assignment, you will hand write (no typing allowed) a five or more paragraph persuasive letter in response to the writing task below.
- After reading the task, take time to plan on a separate piece of paper using memorized graphic organizers, write your letter (double spaced), then proofread and edit.
- To begin gaining pacing experience, students are to attempt to do all or as much of this writing assignment as possible in one continuous sitting.

Scoring:

Your writing will be scored on how well you

- state your position on the topic,
- describe the points in support of your position including examples and other evidence,
- address possible arguments against your position,
- use persuasive strategies and vocabulary,
- use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. You may include a salutation and closing, but only the body of the letter will count towards your score.

Writing Task:

Read the following writing task. You must write a persuasive letter about this topic.

Writing a Persuasive Letter

A daytime curfew means that any student under the age of 16 out on the streets during school hours could be stopped and questioned by police (since it is assumed that the student would normally be in school). The mayor is trying to decide if a daytime curfew for those under the age of 16 would be beneficial in your city. What do you think? Think about the advantages and disadvantages of the curfew and decide if you agree or disagree with this plan. Write a persuasive letter to the mayor, Mr. Mike Smith, to convince him to enact or to not enact the curfew. Give reasons to support your position. Think about and address opposing reasons that he might have against your arguments.

When you write your letter, remember,

- to state your position on the topic,
- to describe the points in support of your position,
- to address possible arguments against your position,
- to use persuasive strategies and vocabulary,
- to use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization. You may include a salutation and closing, but only the body of the letter will count towards your score.