

**Directions: Write your name and the period you have English in the upper left corner of your paper. Single space. Choose ONE of the following prompts. Create an outline or a bubble diagram before you start writing. Write your essay in Microsoft Word. Be sure to SpellCheck when you are finished, and SAVE it, then PRINT your essay and hand it in. You have the complete period. Your teacher will give you a warning when there are 5 minutes remaining.**

**#1.** Due to budget cuts in your community, the school board has decided to eliminate one of the following services in your school:

- New classroom computers and software
- Field trips
- Art and music education
- Library services

Take a position on which service should be eliminated and argue your position in a letter to the local school board.

**#2.** In some countries, students are responsible for the basic daily cleaning of their school buildings. Fifteen minutes are set aside each day for all students to sweep, dust, and clean their classrooms and corridors. One board member visited the high school and noticed that there were pop bottles and snack wrappers in the halls, and he has proposed that PHS institute a similar policy. The last fifteen minutes of every school day would be used for students to clean the building. The BOG is considering taking a position on the proposed policy. Write a letter to your student newspaper stating your position and giving support for your opinion.

**#3.** The school board is considering keeping school in session all year. Instead of a long summer vacation, there will be many shorter breaks throughout the year. They are discussing the possible effects of a twelve-month school year. Do you agree or disagree that schools should be in session all year? State your opinion and support it with reasons and illustrations in a letter to the local newspaper.

**At the end of the period, return this prompt sheet to the teacher so it can be used for the next class period.**