

LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT (100 points)

DUE: Friday, May 18, 2018

General Requirements:

The letter: 1.) uses a standard business letter format addressed to President Donald J. Trump, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500; 2.) clearly speaks of your hopes and/or fears as associated with the Trump Presidency and/or the current state of American politics generally; 3.) focuses on **ONE** significant issue or political concern currently facing America today (See list of possible topics on back); 4.) develops and persuasively advocates for a clear, well-defined thesis re: said hopes, fears, and/or issues which clearly guides your letter throughout; and, 5.) is typed, double spaced, written in 12 pt font, and a minimum of **TWO** pages length.

5 10 15 20 25 30 35

Organization/Argumentation/Persuasiveness:

The letter: 1.) is thoughtful, well-organized, and not a mere rant; 2.) includes an effective introduction, body, and conclusion; 3.) recognizes the complexity and seriousness of the topics addressed; 4.) uses transitions effectively; 5.) employs clear topic sentences to clarify and advance an overall argument; 6.) uses, attributes, and references evidence from **AT LEAST THREE** qualified sources to support original arguments; 6.) develops meaningful paragraphs that flow smoothly from intro to conclusion and are organized for maximum persuasiveness; 7.) provides a satisfying conclusion that is used to underscore the author's position.

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Style, Originality, and Creativity:

The letter: 1.) clearly explains why the issue is of importance to the author; 2.) is formally written and expresses an obvious awareness of audience; 3.) features clear, thoughtful, and serious language, rich, precise vocabulary and an overall convincing tone; 4.) includes an engaging introduction that grabs the reader's attention; 5.) utilizes active voice, rhetorical questions, and/or emotional appeals; 6.) is concise, well-edited, varied, and engaging; 8.) the author's ideas/words are original and plagiarism is avoided.

3 6 9 12 20

Mechanics and Conventions:

Author demonstrates competency of the basic mechanical fundamentals of grammar, spelling, punctuation, usage, and capitalization:

2 4 6 8 10

TOTAL POINTS: _____/100

COMMENTS:

Some Possible Trump Topics
(See Strahn for Approval of Other Ideas):

General:

Tweets
Comments re: Veterans
Comments re: Muslims
Use of Executive Orders
Trump's Political Skill
Trump and the Media/Fake News
Whitehouse Turnover
GOP Retirements in Congress
2018 Mid-Term Election

Domestic Policy:

School Shootings/Gun Control
Abortion/Planned Parenthood funding
Supreme Court Appointments
Immigration
 --Muslim Travel Ban
 --Mexico Border Wall
 --Deportations
 --DACA
Obamacare (GOP Failure to Repeal)
GOP Tax Cuts
Budget Deficit
Jobs Creation
Sexual Harassment/#MeToo Movement
Opioid Epidemic
Trump's Economy and the Stock Market
Veterans
Natural Disasters
National Anthem Controversy
Facebook and Politics
Internet Surveillance
Environmental Policy/National Monuments

Domestic Policy (continued):

Education Policy/Betsy DeVos
Net Neutrality
Election Fraud
Death Penalty
Election Fraud
Electoral College
Campaign Finance Reform
Black Lives Matter Movement
Transgender Bathrooms/Soldiers
Confederate Monuments

Foreign Policy:

North Korea
Iran Nuclear Deal
Paris Climate Agreement Withdrawal
Tarriffs/Trade War
Drone Attacks
US Russia Relations
Syria/Syrian Reffugees
Puerto Rico
Terrorism/ISIS/Taliban/Al Qaeda
Recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's Capital
Women in Combat

Scandals:

Russia Collusion/ Robert Mueller
Firing of James Comey
Stormy Daniels
Michael Cohen
Scott Pruitt
Comments re: John McCain
Gina Haspel for CIA Head
Rudy Giuliani