

1. Choose ONE of the prompts below.
2. Clearly state your position in the first sentence.
3. Write three paragraphs in support of your position, using examples.
4. Use a counter-argument within paragraph two.
5. **Highlight** the counter-argument.
6. Refute the counter-argument, by disproving or weakening it.

Think about a class not currently available that you would like your school to offer. Now write a formal letter to Mr. Sherin that identifies the new class and provides strong reasons for including it in your school's curriculum.

Many schools require students to take foreign language courses. Do you think it's a good idea for students to learn a second language? Why or why not? In an essay, make a case why it is (or is not) important to learn a foreign language.

Some studies have shown students often perform better on exams if music without lyrics is played softly in the background. However, some students may find the music distracting. Should schools play classical music during exams and/or allow students to listen to headphones while working? Take a position and explain your answer. Do not assume that because you like music with lyrics, that it is a good idea to listen to music with lyrics while trying to learn academic concepts in class. If you try this argument, you will not get a good grade.