

Extension: Taking Exit and Entrance Exams

Name _____

Date _____

Your Turn Have students follow the steps below to plan and write a response to one of the following prompts or a prompt that you provide.

Prompt #1: The American school year is considerably shorter than the school year in most other countries. As a result, some experts say that a lot of time is wasted each fall reviewing what students may have forgotten over the summer. Write a persuasive essay defining or refuting the idea of a twelve-month school year.

Prompt #2: “Power should always be distrusted, in whatever hands it is placed” (Sir William Jones). In a personal essay, discuss the truth of these words, providing supporting examples from personal experience, literature, film, history, and/or current events.

1. Complete a STRAP analysis of the prompt (3–5 minutes).

- Subject: _____
- Type: _____
- Role: _____
- Audience: _____
- Purpose: _____

2. Plan the response by writing a thesis statement and creating a brief list of supporting points (5–10 minutes).

- Thesis statement: _____
- Supporting points:
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____

3. Write your response (30 minutes). *Remember:* Include a beginning, a middle, and an ending.

Follow-up: Reflect on your performance: Were you able to complete your writing on time? Did it include all three parts? Did you have time to check your work for clarity before the time was up?