**Writing Persuasive Essays**

**Prewriting** to Develop an Opinion

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| Student: |  | Date: |  |

**List your thoughts.**

Answer the questions below to consider what you know and want to know about your topic.

1. What do I already know about the topic, and what are my feelings about it?

2. What else do I need to find out?

**Write your opinion statement.**

Review the sample opinion statement. Then write an opinion statement that clearly expresses your main feeling about your topic. Before you write your statement, make sure that you have collected all of your thoughts about the topic. If you don’t like how your first statement turns out, write a second or third version.

Overcrowded hallways, cafeterias, and classrooms **(the topic)** make it very hard to teach and to learn **(a feeling or belief about it)**.

Write your opinion statement: