PART IV: ESSAY WRITING

INSTRUCTIONS: Write an argumentative essay that develops a central claim, idea, or opinion on ONE of the topics listed below. Your essay must:

- be between 300 and 400 words in length;
- contain several well-developed paragraphs that support and illustrate your central idea;
- not consist entirely of narration and description, although narrative or descriptive passages may be employed in developing your argument; and
- be written in ink, not pencil.

You are encouraged to make a plan and a draft of your essay on the pages titled “Rough Work.” Be sure to allow yourself time to revise your initial draft. Only what you write on the pages titled “Finished Work” will be evaluated.

In evaluating your essay, the markers will consider:

- the clarity and correctness of your word choice and sentence structure;
- the quality of your ideas and the way you have developed them; and
- the logic and coherence of your essay's overall structure.

If your essay does not deal directly with one of the topics found below, you will receive a mark of zero.

Essay Questions

1. Should minors be required to have their parents’ (or guardians’) consent to get body tattoos? Why or why not? Provide specific reasons.

2. Sponsored articles threaten independent news. Agree or disagree? Explain your choice with reasons and examples.

3. Should students vote for and elect their teachers? Use specific examples.
I firmly believe that minors are required to have their parents’ consent in order to get body tattoos. In modern-day society, every single one of us, due to our own human nature, is prone to influence whether it be by something or someone. One can reason that minors are most susceptible to influence due to their minds not being fully matured yet. Therefore, it is salient that we protect them from themselves until they are capable of making their own decisions.

There is a myriad of reasons why minors require consent and we must employ simple logic and reasoning to substantiate its necessity. One major reason why tattoos are egregious is the simple fact that they are harmful. Every day we hear about the rise of a new disease and tattoos lead to just that skin cancer is a horrible disease that results from getting body tattoos. Hence, why should we expose minors to the risk of getting cancer at an early age?

Body tattoos are permanent which means there is no going back. Minors must understand the severity of making a huge decision such as getting body tattoos. They have a juvenile nature, hence we must guide them during their youthful years and galvanize a sense of intuition and responsibility in order to craft a mind that is well-equipped to make big decisions. Minors may not understand their guardians’ decision at that particular in time but it is genuinely advantageous for their own sake to prevent any sense of regret in the future.

Body tattoos can also hinder minors in their professional lives. We live in a time where every aspect of our lives is systematic. There are values and regulations for everything and the process of finding a job can be difficult; even more caustic if you have body tattoos. This is how society works, people will be judged on how they present present themselves and tattoos engender a street-like image in many people’s perspective. In conclusion, tattoos alter the way we look and in the mind’s of many it can critically affect one’s status in society.
Just like driving, sexual activity and drinking alcohol require the consent of a higher figure (in these cases the state), getting body tattoos is no different. Furthermore, we all have a responsibility to protect minors until they come of legal age to ensure that there is no burden of past erroneous decisions on their shoulders.

*Essay Score: 35/40*

*Essay Level: 5*